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THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 980.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUG. 10, 1864. PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d. / STAMPED ..... 6d.

THE TAMWORTH CHURCH-RATE CASE.

HILL AND BAILEY *VERSUS* HASKEW.

This celebrated case, which has been in litigation so long, has at length been decided by Dr. Lushington, in the Court of Arches, in favour of the Defendant and the Friends of Civil and Religious Liberty.

The promoters of the suit were the Churchwardens of Tamworth, a parish consisting of six townships, extending over an area of 10,000 acres, and containing upwards of 2,000 ratepayers. For a long time disputes have existed on the subject of Church-rates, and Mr. Haskew has, for many years, been subjected to a most vexatious system of persecution, because of his determined refusal to pay Church-rates. He was repeatedly summoned before the magistrates, and on some occasions the case was dismissed; but, at length, notwithstanding the arguments advanced by Mr. Haskew's solicitor, J. Bennett, Esq., of Serjeants'-inn, against the validity of the rate, the magistrates made an order upon him for payment. The order was enforced by the Churchwardens' seizing Mr. Haskew's cow, after the lapse of six months; and he, knowing that it was useless at that point, to resist the seizure—submitted, and paid the rate under protest.

In 1861, Mr. Haskew was again summoned and appeared before the magistrates, who dismissed the case upon the condition of its being taken by the Churchwardens to the Ecclesiastical Court. The matter was then brought before the Court of Arches, the Churchwardens applying to enforce the rate, and Mr. Haskew—with a boldness and determination which merit the highest praise—appearing before the Court to oppose it, on the ground of its inequalities. Had the decision been against him it would have proved his complete ruin. Dr. Lushington, however, in a long and elaborate judgment, decided in his favour; and this decision will not only affect numerous cases, but go a great way towards bringing to a final issue the vexed and irritating question of Church-rates. The costs of the case, on both sides, are upwards of 2,000*l.*; Mr. Haskew's costs were 989*l.* 10s.; of these the Churchwardens had to pay 658*l.* 5s. 8d.; leaving 331*l.* 4s. 4d. to be paid by defendant. His fellow-townsmen, believing that his noble defence of the great principles of religious liberty ought not to subject him to so severe a loss, have appealed to the public on his behalf; and a subscription has been opened for the purpose of raising sufficient to indemnify him, and the sum of 75*l.* has already been collected.

The decision in the above case possesses a national interest and importance; and the committee formed by the supporters of Mr. Haskew now appeals for assistance to other towns, fully believing that the persevering and independent action of the Defendant will command for him in his difficulty the sympathy and support of all liberal-minded men.

Donations are most earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received by

Rev. THOMAS BURGESS (Chairman), Tamworth.
Rev. J. KELLY, Tamworth.
Rev. E. J. TRAVIS, Tamworth.
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Mr. R. A. LOMASNEY (Secretary), Tamworth.
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Tamworth, July 2nd, 1864.

ALBERTLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

SPECIAL SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION.

A communication having been received from New Zealand, to the effect that the FREE LAND GRANTS are likely to cease in the coming Autumn, persons desirous of securing

THE 40-ACRE LAND GRANT, AT ALBERTLAND,

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Forms to fill up may be obtained of the Secretary. The application should be accompanied by a stamped envelope containing the name and address of the person requiring the information. Contributions are very earnestly solicited.

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Those who are familiar with the brief but active career of the late Mr. Wilks know that he was unceasing in his advocacy of Liberal principles, and that he placed his rare and noble powers of speech at the disposal of the public movements in which he was interested, with a total disregard of his own health or pecuniary interests. For example, last year—a year somewhat eventful in the history of our relations with America—he delivered scores of public addresses at the meetings of the Emancipation Society without remuneration. Mr. Wilks having unhappily died without being able to make an adequate provision for his widow and children, and their claims upon the generous feeling of Reformers being so unquestionable, the above committee has been formed in the hope that a considerable fund may be raised for their benefit. Subscriptions may be forwarded to William Hargreaves, Esq., the treasurer, 34, Craven-hill-gardens, Hyde Park, or to the hon. secretary, 65, Fleet-street.

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GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C.
Patron—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S FUND.

OUR readers will recollect that somewhat above twelve months since the Bishop of London, in a "Letter to the Laity of the Diocese of London," made certain proposals for supplying, to a large and appreciable extent, the spiritual destitution of the metropolis. It was subsequently resolved at an influential meeting, convened under his auspices, to raise 1,000,000*l.* in ten years, or 100,000*l.* a-year during that period, the money to constitute a fund applicable to several purposes then agreed upon—such, for example, as finding missionary-clergy, or additional curates, Scripture-readers, and mission-women for the most populous and least provided for of the metropolitan parishes; building or otherwise obtaining clergymen's residences, schools, and mission-rooms or school-churches; endowing old and new districts and curacies; and, where deemed to be necessary, erecting new churches. We commented, with warm approbation, and with very few exceptions, upon the enterprise at the time of launching it, and we have now the pleasure of making a few remarks on the first annual report.

It appears that in answer to the appeal made by the Bishop to the laity of London for their active co-operation, about 150,000*l.* have been promised, of which about 65,000*l.* have been received, and that "the present number of subscribers, exclusive of those who have contributed to parochial collections, is only about 1,600." From the resources thus supplied the following objects have been accomplished:—Forty additional missionary-clergy or curates, thirty Scripture-readers, and ten parochial mission-women have been provided, at an annual cost of 7,000*l.* A little over 4,000*l.* has been granted for the erection of eight temporary churches or mission-stations, and about 1,650*l.* for the purchase of sites for churches or stations. Upwards of 10,000*l.* has been given in aid of the erection of thirteen permanent churches, some of which have already been consecrated, and others are in course of erection. The sum of 750*l.* has been granted directly towards the erection of new schools, and 1,000*l.* has been entrusted to the London Diocesan Board of Education to promote, by small grants, the establishment of a large number of additional schools, and, finally, it is proposed at the next meeting of the committee to vote about 2,200*l.* per annum for thirteen additional missionary-clergy and 11,000*l.* for temporary churches, sites, and mission-rooms. The foregoing figures differ somewhat from those given by the Bishop of London at the general meeting of the executive committee, held on Monday, the 1st inst., but we apprehend that he stated results up to a later date than that at which the report was drawn up.

The first idea that will probably cross the mind of the reader is that the subscriptions actually paid within the year fall considerably short of the sum which it was proposed to raise, and that the number of contributors (1,600 or thereabouts) is disproportionately small. We hope that the committee will not draw premature inferences from the fact. No doubt the want is urgent. No doubt the wealth of the metropolis, and especially in connection with the Established Church, is enormous. No doubt, moreover, that if the latter had been made available for the supply of the former, to even a moderate extent, five times the amount, at least, would have been contributed. But Christian liberality, like every other Christian grace, grows by exercise. For our part, we look upon the first results of the Bishop's appeal as a magnificent success. We cannot but bear in mind—and we wish it may be taken into account by the Bishop and his coadjutors—that what has already been done has been done under extremely unfavourable conditions. The laity of the Church of England have been moulded, so to speak, by influences which have deadened their sense of responsibility, and checked rather than elicited their appropriation of means to the service of God. They have not been accustomed, until very recently, to let their sympathies wander beyond the bounds of their respective parishes. They have not been trained to consider it any part of their obligation to give of their "carnal things" in grateful exchange for the "spiritual things" ministered to them. As to their religion, they have lived upon an extraneous and legal provision. Their pastors have been maintained without any demand upon their pecuniary resources. Their churches have been repaired, their comforts have been furnished by a tax annually levied upon dissidents as well as conformists. They have heard much from episcopal and clerical lips in disparagement of the voluntary principle. They have been instructed to trust to law far more than to love. The system under which even the present generation—to say nothing of past generations—has been educated, has been one which led them to expect to have things done *for* them, not *by* them, and, to this day, they are trammelled by this benumbing theory. That, under these circumstances, they should so far respond to the appeal of their Bishop as to promise within a year 150,000*l.*, and actually to pay up half that sum, appears to us surprising as a first effort. So far from being a discouragement, it ought rather to operate as a stimulus. These are early days, as yet, for the development of Christian liberality within the pale of the Establishment.

The contributors are few in number, and, for the most part, we suspect, are just those few noble-hearted sons of the Church to whom giving is no novelty. We dare venture the suggestion that their names, for the most part, might be found in the subscription lists to most of the great Church Societies. They are the few whose enlightened piety and spiritual earnestness have raised them above the system with which birth and education have connected them. But, as the Bishop of London truly observed, the committee were compelled to lament that "hardly anything had been done amongst the tradespeople of London as a body, or amongst the poor, and they had naturally looked to the resources which they trusted would flow even from the humblest classes of the community." Other denominations, trained in the duty of self-support, have found anything but a disproportionate indisposition in these classes to devote of their substance to the religious objects which have evoked their interest; and, indeed, the sum total of contributions given by them for the maintenance of their ministers, the expenses incident to Divine service, and the extension of the Gospel amongst the heathen at home and abroad, would make the Bishop of London's fund look insignificant in comparison. It is not because the members of other denominations are more liberally disposed that this difference obtains—it is not because they are better organised—it is simply because they have been trained up in the belief that Church support and extension is something for which *they* are responsible—a part of the outcome of religious life, which cannot be neglected without dishonour and guilt. The Establishment, as a system, supersedes, and even frowns upon, this individuality of obligation, and is founded upon the assumption of its insufficiency and untrustworthiness. The Bishop of London will find it a difficult work to beget in the hearts of the classes to whom he refers that feeling of responsibility for the religious concerns of their neighbours which, when once fairly quickened, will pour abundance into his treasury. It will require time and labour, tact and perseverance, to get rid of those self-indulgent impressions which the habit of expecting to be cared for, in place of caring for themselves and others, has left upon their character. He will have to labour long against the traditions of several centuries, and the effect of them upon ordinary modes of thought and feeling, in order to get at the sympathies and springs of religious liberality, which lie buried beneath the rubbish which, from generation to generation, has been heaped upon them by prelatical and priestly teaching. He will have, in fact, to undo not a little that a legal provision and the parochial system have too fatally succeeded in doing.

The right rev. bishop, and they who are assisting him, will, perhaps, listen with smiling incredulity at this strain of remark. Be it so. Facts will, however, be more successful in opening their eyes. They have started a great and godly enterprise. Their hearts will warm to it. Year after year they will derive fresh lessons from their successes and their failures. Year after year they will become better acquainted with the marvellous elasticity of Christian willing-hood, and will necessarily be thrown in contact with some of the moral impediments which a legal provision, and especially an inadequate one, presents to the evangelisation of the masses. They are exploring what is to them untrodden ground. Following the light of a holy principle, they are venturing outside of the boundaries of a Church Establishment. May God enable them to do for Him what it is in their hearts to do—awaken Christian life in the most neglected corners of this vast metropolis! And, in doing it, we are more than satisfied that the exertions they will put forth, and the sacrifices they will endure, will, in due course, commend to their judgment and affections many a conclusion and many a mode of action, which, in the outset, they would have regarded as opposed, if not to Christianity, at least to the union of the Church with the State. In this, as in all other cases, "if any man will *do* the will of God, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be true."

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

IN the two-hundred-and-twentieth number of the *Tatler* there is a humorous paper by Addison, in which he communicates to the public an account of his ecclesiastical thermometer. First he gives its history and its construction. About the latter we are informed that the fluid for measuring was composed partly of a fiery spirit, which, if not mixed with the water, was apt to burst the vessel, and fly up in fume and smoke, and partly of icy water of the nature mentioned by Quintus Curtius, which could be contained alone in nothing but the skull of an ass. The former fluid represented the High and the latter the Low Church theories. The thermometer was marked as follows:—

Ignorance.
Persecution.
Wrath.
Zeal.
CHURCH.
Moderation.
Lukewarmness.
Infidelity.
Ignorance.

The Church, says Addison, when it mounts to Zeal is not amiss, and when it sinks to Moderation it is still

in an admirable temper. But the worst is that when once it begins to rise it has an inclination to ascend; so that it is apt to climb from Zeal to Wrath, and from Wrath to Persecution, which always ends in Ignorance, and very often proceeds from it. In the same manner, we are told, it will descend from Moderation to Lukewarmness, and from Lukewarmness to Infidelity, which often terminates in Ignorance, and always proceeds from it. The glass, says Addison, will fall almost incredibly by the breath of a multitude crying Popery, and will rise in the same manner when the same multitude cry out in the same breath, "*The Church is in danger!*"

Both these events are constantly happening in our time; and so correctly did Addison mark his thermometer that it may be used without alteration a century and a half after it was constructed. We have seen in our own days how at the cry of Popery the Church has sunk straight to Infidelity; and we now see how the cry of the *Church is in Danger* has sent it up to Wrath and Persecution. Of Church wrath Archdeacon Denison is a personification; and month by month, in the broad columns of the *Church and State Review*, this wrath finds a devout though angry expression. Thus this month the Dean of Westminster is told that he is not honest, his Churchmanship is jeered at, and he is informed that he is destroying the faith of the people. Next, schemes of Church comprehension are attacked; but the Archdeacon's largest vial is reserved for the Liberation party. Archdeacon Denison writes, he says, to "expose the working of this powerful organisation," which is a "growing power of evil." The recitation of a few facts concerning the origin of the party is sufficient to work the Venerable writer to a pitch of fury. Its object, he says, "is the plunder of Church property. It has been for some time the pretended wish of this body that the property so plundered should be secularised. They are growing bolder now, by increase of their numbers and influence. Mr. Miall and others will not now say that they want it to be secularised, because they have indistinct hopes that it may be transferred to themselves."

We quote this as an illustration of the manner in which Church Wrath will work. Archdeacon Denison is a gentleman and a Christian, having, we believe, the glory of God before him. We believe he would not, in ordinary moods, stain his character or his honour by wilful perversion of the truth, by gratuitous invention of a false statement, or by any malicious insinuation. But zeal in the Archdeacon is so hot that it is constantly mounting up to wrath, and then—well then, perhaps, it is best to say that he is scarcely, when in that state, accountable for his words. Whenever he alludes to the Liberation party he is like a mad bull, and will gore even his own friends. Since writing the sentence we have quoted, the Archdeacon, very possibly, has cooled down. If he has, we put it to him, as to a man of honour and a gentleman, whether it would not be most consistent with that chivalrous reputation which he has acquired in the Church, unreservedly and publicly to withdraw the statement he has made? At the head of the paper of Addison from which we have quoted, there is a motto from Horace to the effect that men should not overshoot themselves in the pursuit even of virtue. The Archdeacon will not fail to see the appositeness of this quotation, and will further, we dare say, agree with us that men should certainly not overshoot themselves in the pursuit of vice.

Another illustration of the high state of the ecclesiastical thermometer is to be found in a letter of Mr. G. F. Chambers in the *Churchman*, concerning the late Eastbourne Church-rate contest. The scrutiny of the votes on this rate brought out the fact that it was carried by eighteen votes, but that there was a majority of forty-nine persons against it. This has at once sent up Mr. Chambers to Wrath, and from Wrath to Persecution. He writes that, "so disgusted were they with the tactics of their party, that not only did several leading Dissenters fail to vote against the rate, but abtually voted for it"; that "intimidation of the most unscrupulous kind was freely resorted to by the beaten party"; and that "one man who was offered the chance of voting against it, being turned out of his house into the streets by his landlord." This is Mr. Chambers in wrath, and we need scarcely say that, like Archdeacon Denison, he has invented every one of his facts, there not being a tittle of evidence in their favour. They are the charges of an angry, mortified, and unscrupulous partisan. But Mr. Chambers rises after this to Persecution. He says that Churchmen "betray the most reprehensible inconsistency in neglecting their shopkeepers and patronising commercial schismatics"; that "if every Churchman would systematically patronise Church tradesmen and Church institutions generally, Dissent would soon find its own level"; and that in this parish (Eastbourne) "I have reason to believe *the trading question will henceforth be properly worked.*" Such a spirit and such writing carry their own criticism and condemnation. We are less afraid of such weapons of warfare than of any that can be used against us. The Swiss rifleman who borrowed nine bullets of the devil to gain a prize, shot splendidly with the first eight, but unluckily shot himself with the ninth.

We are glad that the story to which we alluded a fortnight ago, concerning the pressure put by Messrs. Watmuff, of Harden, on their workmen to compel them to leave church, has completely broken down. A general public meeting of the inhabitants was held at Harden on Monday night, when the whole of the facts came out, and a resolution was unanimously passed, branding the story which has appeared in some Church and Tory papers as a libel. It is asserted, beyond contradiction, that Churchmen and Church boys have always worked for Messrs. Watmuff, and are at work for them now. Perhaps our Church contemporaries, who were so eager to catch at this story, will be just, if not kind enough, now to give the contradiction to it.

The United Methodist Free Churches have just held their general meeting. Probably, no denomination of Christians has made, or is making, more rapid progress than this. It numbers now some 70,000 members, 1,065 chapels, and 415 preaching-rooms. The Free Churches represent Methodism as Wesley would probably have had it represented, if he had lived to our own time. They have no "Legal Hundred," and no secret conclaves. The whole of their proceedings are as open as those of the Congregational Union. They are animated by a spirit of freedom as pure as that which animates any denomination of Christians. We are glad, therefore, to see their prosperity and to know of their success. There are many denominations, and sometimes it will occur to one that some of them might be spared, but the Wesleyan churches not in connection with the Old Conference are doing a very special and a very needed work.

CHURCH-RATES.

Capel, Surrey.—This usually quiet village, situated midway between Dorking and Horsham, has lately been somewhat animated on the question of Church-rates. Three farmers resident in the parish, Mr. Edwin Butcher, Mr. Henry Butcher, and Mr. John Dale, the two former of whom are Churchmen, and the latter a member of the Society of Friends, were summoned before the Dorking bench on Saturday last, for the non-payment of a 10d. Church-rate made on the 6th of May. The magistrates present on the occasion were Lieut.-Col. Parratt, chairman, Captain Calvert, A. J. Gordon, Esq., M.D., T. Grissell, Esq., A. K. Barclay, Esq., and A. Powell, Esq. The churchwardens were represented by Mr. H. Young, of Dorking, the parties summoned were ably defended by Mr. Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn. Mr. Bowers, assistant overseer, deposed to the notice convening the vestry being duly given. Mr. Jardine, one of the churchwardens, produced the minute-book of the vestry, and proved the making of the rate. This witness, who was subjected to a severe cross-examination by Mr. Bennett, made several admissions showing the irregularity of the proceedings. It appeared from the warden's evidence that five persons only were present at the making the rate—the incumbent, the two churchwardens, the vestry clerk, and the proposer of the rate—Captain Langdale. No estimate was submitted to the vestry. It was also elicited that a rate for the "ordinary expenses of the church" was made in the previous month (April). The notice of the vestry stated the meeting to be "for authorising the incumbent and the churchwardens to carry out the repairs and enlargement of the church according to the plan of Mr. Woodyear." This plan, it appeared from the churchwarden's admission, was by a resolution passed at a vestry-meeting held September 21, 1860. Subsequently to this period, subscriptions to the amount of 1,200*l.* had been obtained towards the enlargement and repairs of the church. A vestry-meeting was held June 6th, 1862, at which an estimate of the proposed repairs and enlargement was submitted, and a rate of 6d. in the pound was made. This rate was never collected. Mr. Bennett, in addressing the bench, contended that as the notice of the vestry stated it to be for authorising "the repairs and enlargement of the church," and as the heading of the rate set forth that it was for "repairs," the procedure was therefore informal. Again, the notice referred to a certain plan authorised by the vestry of 1860, which plan it appeared by the evidence of the churchwarden had been submitted as an estimate at the vestry of 1862, and a 6d. rate, based thereon, had then been made. If the notice of vestry referred—as the churchwarden admitted he intended it to do when he drew up the notice—to the vestry of 1860, then the business had been settled, and was buried, at the vestry of 1862. If, on the other hand, the notice referred to the later vestry, the churchwardens must be debited with the 6d. rate uncollected, and the present rate was therefore excessive. Throughout the whole proceedings there had evidently been great irregularity. Mr. Bennett concluded his able address by reiterating the grounds of his objection to the rate, by formally questioning its validity, and by asking the bench to dismiss the summonses. After a few observations by Mr. Young, and a minute or two spent in consultation by the bench, the chairman announced that he and his brother magistrates had come to the conclusion that there had been great irregularity in the proceedings, and that the summonses should be dismissed. It will probably be remembered by our readers that about three years ago an informal order was made by the Dorking justices, and that this was succeeded by an illegal seizure, and a compromise of the proceedings by the payment of costs. The lesson taught has doubtless not been without a wholesome influence in the present decision. It is surely a gratifying and encouraging sign of progress when Churchmen—one of them an ex-churchwarden too—are found in an agricultural village bravely and victoriously resisting the enforcement of an invalid Church-rate.

Machynlleth.—For some years Church-rates had ceased to be levied in this parish, owing principally to the determined refusal of a few sturdy Voluntaries to pay rate when demanded. On the 8th inst., however, a vestry was held at the parish church, with a view to the laying of a rate to remove and rebuild the eastern pine end of the church. After a great deal of a previous desultory discussion, by way of sharpshooting, it was finally proposed by the Rev. Josiah Jones, Independent minister, and seconded by Edward Davies, Esq., Dolcaradog:—

That the churchwardens and others should provide for the estimated expenses on the Voluntary principle.

After not a little adverse talk on the part of some of the Church party, who by all means wanted a rate under some form, the motion was put to the meeting, and carried by an overwhelming majority. At the close, a vote of thanks to the rector for his conduct in the chair was moved by John Morgan, Esq., and seconded by John F. Jones, Esq., which was passed unanimously. After such a decided victory, and especially after such an unqualified condemnation of the compulsory principle in religion, it is not likely that another attempt for a rate will be made in this parish.

Bermondsey.—The trustees of St. James's Church, Bermondsey, under the powers of their local Act, from time to time make rates for the sustentation of the church. The rates are made at meetings of the trustees, at which neither the parishioners nor the press are allowed to be present, and of which no notice is given to any person except the trustees. At a recent meeting of the trustees it was decided to summon all defaulters on the last rate, and the summonses came on for hearing on Monday. Mr. Rendle, of Charles-street, Horsleydown, was one of the defaulters, he objecting to pay on principle. He contended that the rate was illegally made, because many, if not all, of the trustees had not been legally appointed, their appointment having been made in a meeting of the parishioners assembled; whereas the Local Management Act had abrogated all the powers of the old vestries and conferred them on the newly-constituted elected vestries. Mr. Collins, clerk to the trustees, having been heard in reply, the magistrates considered the question to be of sufficient importance to warrant an adjournment, and they adjourned the further hearing of the summonses accordingly.—*South London Journal.*

THE METHODIST ASSEMBLIES.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

At Tuesday's sitting of the Conference at Bradford, the fifty-nine candidates for the ministry were examined on theological subjects by Dr. Hannah. The result was satisfactory, and on the motion of Dr. Hannah, seconded by the Rev. J. Bedford, the fifty-nine candidates examined were unanimously received into full connection. When the will of the Conference was ascertained, the President addressed the candidates in kindly and solemn terms, exhorting them to follow the example set by the Apostles and early Christians, and to prepare for ordination by fasting and prayer. The Conference then proceeded to fill up vacancies in the executive of the book-room and Didsbury College. The Rev. William Jackson, of London, was unanimously elected to the Governorship of Didsbury College, in the place of the Rev. John Bowers, who retires. The vacancy in the editorial department, caused by the resignation of the Rev. J. G. Wilson, was filled up by the appointment of the Rev. Benjamin Frankland, B.A. The Rev. Dr. Jobson was appointed to the office of Book Steward, in the place of the Rev. John Mason, deceased. The Rev. John Farrar was reappointed to the Governorship of Woodhouse-grove School.

On Wednesday the ordination service took place in Eastbrook Chapel, in presence of a very crowded congregation. A slightly modified form of the office for the ordaining of priests in the service of the Church of England was then read; and each of the fifty-nine candidates were called upon to respond to the solemn questions proposed. Then kneeling, group after group, at the communion rails, they were ordained to the office of the Christian ministry by the imposition of hands, all the members of the Conference standing up, and responding to the prayer offered by the President over each candidate. A Bible was presented to each, containing the autograph of the President and Secretary. In the work of ordination the President was assisted by the ex-President, the Secretary, the Revs. Dr. Hannah, John Scott, Wm. Shaw,

and some other ministers. The newly-ordained ministers then received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, after which the ex-President ascended the pulpit, and proceeded to deliver his official charge, which was founded upon 2 Timothy i. 14.

In the evening there was an open session of the Conference in Eastbrook, which was much crowded. In the course of the proceedings, the President, in his character as representative from America, addressed the meeting. During the delivery of this address the Ex-President occupied the chair.

The President briefly adverted to the very happy circumstances of his outward voyage, and the hearty reception accorded to him in the United States. He stated that in Brooklyn, the suburb of New York, there are twenty Methodist churches, and in New York itself forty Methodist churches; and that in one church, after a missionary sermon, a collection was made amounting to 2,000*l.* During his stay in New York he visited the Bible House, the Astor Library, and the Methodist Book-room. In Philadelphia, it was his responsible duty to address the Conference, and, in the name of British Methodism, he endeavoured to make his address Wesleyan, Christian, pacific, and anti-slavery. He did not officiate in any church of the United States without praying for the restoration of peace, and the Divine blessing on the Queen of England. He declared his conviction that there is a hearty veneration for Great Britain in Republican America. He adverted to the great formality which marks the proceedings of the General Conference, and to the ceremony attending his own reception. A high eulogium was pronounced on the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose labours were illustrated by the fact that in four years the youngest bishop had only spent fourteen weeks in his own home. The report of the bishops, in which they were all agreed, was remarkable as declaring that the time had come to draw the anti-slavery line, and exclude from the church all who would not liberate their slaves. Five coloured ministers were introduced as a deputation from the African Methodist churches, the darkest of whom was described as being "as eloquent as Mr. Punshon." In Washington, he was introduced to President Lincoln, to whom he addressed a few words, guarded, Christian, and unpolitical. "Sir," he said, "there are many thoughtful and praying men in England who are praying daily for the cessation of hostilities, for the bursting of the fetters of the slave, and who hope and believe these two results will, in the providence of God, occur together." For more than twenty-five miles he was within the roar of artillery, and saw hundreds on hundreds of wounded. More than 100,000 Methodists have actually been in the war, and reckoning the slain, and the wounded, and the captives, more than half are gone.

When he entered Canada he was impressed with the thought that the British sceptre covers as many acres of American soil as the Republic, North and South together. He proceeded to describe the conference in Toronto, and the work of Methodism in Canada. In the conference 340 ministers were in session. The meeting was next addressed by the Rev. James Hoeart, the President of the French Conference, who dwelt upon the rationalism of the French Protestant Churches as developed in connection with action recently taken by the Consistories of Paris and Nismes. His statements were most luminous, and the view presented in many respects appalling.

On Thursday the question of appointing a minister to visit the Sunday-schools of the Connexion came up, and a resolution to this effect agreed to, the Rev. John Clulow being chosen. The resolution of the chapel committee, recommending the setting apart of a second minister as assistant-secretary for chapel affairs, was then submitted. A resolution that a committee be appointed to consider the whole question of chapel affairs, and to report to the next Conference, was carried by a large majority. The next question in order was that of changes in circuits, divisions, and additional appointments. The secretary stated that there were applications for *fifty-six* additional preachers. The applications were discussed in the order of districts and circuits, till the time for adjournment came, and was resumed on Friday. Nearly four hours were devoted to a patient hearing of the cases ranged under this question. Many circuits ask for the appointment of home missionary ministers, and many others ask to be divided, so that the labours of resident ministers may be more concentrated. The sanction given by the Conference to many cases of this sort indicates a growing desire for such a modification of the itinerancy as is compatible with the genius and constitution of Methodism. The stationary committee then retired, and the addresses of other conferences, and the replies to them, were read, after which the Rev. P. McOwan moved, and Dr. Rule seconded, a resolution on the subject of the closing of public-houses on the Lord's Day.

The business on Saturday was not of general interest. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Punshon read a statement relating to the Watering Places Chapel Fund, which is to be raised by himself. The committee have deemed it expedient to make grants at once, not waiting until the whole sum proposed shall have been raised, but not allowing the grants to exceed the sum already raised. Mr. Punshon reported that twenty-four applications had been made, two of which had been declined, four judged to be unripe, and eighteen accepted. Grants had been made to the extent of 3,000*l.* The total outlay contemplated by the cases assisted would be 17,222*l.*, and the aggregate number of sittings to be provided 6,425. The places to which grants had been made were Eastbourne, Ilfracombe, Llandudno, Southbourne, Ambleside, Dawlish, Malvern, Keswick, Torquay, Ventnor, Filey, Matlock, Bath, and others.

The proceedings of Monday were of little more than denominational interest. A letter was read from the secretary of the Manchester auxiliary to the Bible Society, stating that the Bible was now supplied for 6d., the New Testament for 2d., the Gospels for 1d. He commended these facts to the managers of Sunday-schools especially. The President eulogised the society, and commended it to the best support of ministers. The President further stated that Levi Coffin, of Ohio, a member of the Society of Friends, desired the recognition of Methodism in his efforts to promote the abolition of slavery. A report was then read as to the position of City-road Chapel. 10,860*l.* 17s. 8d. have been subscribed towards securing the freehold of this property. It has been purchased for 9,228*l.* 7s. 2d., and 600*l.* paid for the intervening years of the lease; leaving a balance of 1,032*l.* 10s. 6d. towards the renovation of the chapel. It was stated that this renovation will be so effected as to maintain all the old characteristics of this venerable building. The Schools Fund report was then read by the Rev. John Harvard, and accepted by the Conference. It was agreed that the educational allowance to ministers' daughters shall be raised from 8*l.* 8s. to 12*l.* per annum. The report of the Education Fund was also read, after which the Rev. John Scott urged the further visitation of day-schools by ministers. The venerable Thomas Jackson urged the regular meeting of children, from eight to fourteen years of age, in small companies. The report of the Book Committee was then presented by the Rev. John Kirk, after which various votes of thanks were passed, and the Conference adjourned at half-past three. Of course the Sunday services at Bradford were an occasion of special excitement.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

This connexion, originally formed by secession from the Wesleyan body, and now numbering nearly 70,000 members, in conformity with the usages of Methodism, holds an Annual Assembly, not so much for legislative purposes, as for inquiry into the general state of the churches, and affording opportunities for mutual advice and encouragement. The Assembly is not exclusively ministerial in its composition, but consists of ministers and laymen, delegated by the several churches or circuits, the number of each element being generally nearly equal. The galleries of the chapel in which the assembly meets are open to all members of the churches and to representatives of the press. The assembly commenced its sittings on Wednesday week in Wesley Chapel, Prudhoe-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Rev. Joseph Colman has been elected President, and Rev. Marmaduke Miller Secretary.

At the meeting of the Assembly on Monday last week the chief topic of discussion was the proposed amalgamation of the United Methodist Free Churches with the Methodist New Connexion; after which the thanks of the assembly were voted to the Connexional Committee. It would seem that the proposed union had not been very warmly received by the New Connexion Conference last year. The following resolution was, however, unanimously adopted after considerable discussion:—

Union of Liberal Methodists.—That this Assembly, having heard the replies of the Methodist New Connexion Conference and the officials of the Wesleyan Reform Union, the Bible Christians, and the Primitive Methodists, to the resolution passed by the Annual Assembly of 1863, for promoting a union of the various sections of Liberal Methodism, reflects with pleasure on the course adopted by that Assembly in relation to this important matter, and while regretting that none of the communities to which its resolutions were sent has appointed representatives to confer with the committee authorised by it to meet them for the consideration of the subject, hopes that its efforts to advance Christian union will yet bear fruit; and recommends the ministers and members of the United Churches to continue to cultivate fraternal relations with all who love the Lord Jesus Christ, both theirs and ours.

Charles Cheetham, Esq, of Heywood, was re-elected Connexional treasurer for the ensuing year, the Rev. Thomas Newton, Exeter, corresponding secretary; and the Rev. S. S. Barton, Rochdale, the general missionary secretary.

At Tuesday's sitting an increase of 700*l.* in the ordinary missionary receipts was reported. It is probable that there would be a balance in hand of 3,000*l.* after all claims were met. It was also stated that 2,500*l.* was needed to meet the current expenses of the year. A long memorial from the North of England Temperance Society was then read. The memorial set forth the claims of the temperance cause, and urged that the Assembly should give it their aid and sympathy. Mr. Miller remarked that out of every fifty or fifty-five persons who had been examined for the ministry, on the question being asked, were they abstainers, not less than forty-five replied in the affirmative. The memorial was then formally received. Mr. Boyden, of Bristol, read the annual addresses to the home churches. It stated there had been an increase of 657 members during the year, and in the same period they had built forty-two new chapels. In the evening, at half-past six, Wesley Chapel was again crowded by a large audience, to hear the Ex-President deliver the charge to the six young ministers:—the Rev. Thomas Cooper, the Rev. J. S. Rendell, the Rev. C. Worboys, the Rev. C. Brewster, the Rev. G. Hudson, and the Rev. Jos. Mortimer, who were received into full connection on the previous evening.

At Wednesday's sitting it was resolved that the next meeting of the Assembly should be held at Nottingham. The tabular statistics of the Connexion were read, and showed that there are 254 itinerant preachers, an increase on the number of last year of 30, and 11 supernumeraries, being an increase of 2; and 3,096 local preachers—an increase of 175 as compared with last year. There are 4,029 readers—an increase of 197; 66,331 members—an increase of 657; the number of chapels is 1,065—an increase of 61; 415 other preaching-rooms—an increase of 12 on the number of last year. 21 chapels have been built, and 21 enlarged during the past year. The number of Sunday-schools is 1,145—an increase of 57 on the past year. The number of Sunday-scholars is 835,553, and of teachers 20,754—an increase of 4,330 and 713 respectively. Of day-schools the number is 45—a decrease of 3; and of scholars the number is 3,132—a decrease of 724; and of teachers the number is 352. There are 578 registered chapels—an increase of 58; while 235 are settled on the model deed—an increase of 24. The Assembly closed its sittings on Friday evening. Thursday and Friday's proceedings included a debate on the state of the Connexion, addresses at the Town-hall, and the President's closing address. "To the end, as from the beginning, the proceedings of the Free Churches' Assembly (says the *Wesleyan Times*) vindicated the breadth of its constitution and the freedom of its principles."

BIBLE CHRISTIANS.

The Annual Conference of the ministers and representatives of the people denominated "Bible Christians," commenced its sittings in Zion Chapel, Zion-street, Plymouth, on Wednesday, the 27th of July, and closed last week. Mr. W. Luke was elected President, and Mr. W. Gilbert was re-elected Secretary. The following are the principal statistics connected with this Christian organisation:—Itinerant preachers, 212; local preachers, 1,632; chapels, 712; preaching places, 320; deaths, 302; emigration, 507; members, 25,089; trial, 730; teachers, 8,026; scholars, 36,341; showing in the year an increase of 11 local preachers, 13 chapels, 4 deaths, 287 members, 218 teachers, and 1,311 scholars. Eighteen young men were recommended to and accepted by the Conference as candidates for the itinerancy, and were duly received into the Connexion. The Missionary Society has realised several hundred pounds sterling increase to its funds. All the other Connexional funds have a favourable increase of receipts. The financial returns of 400 Connexional chapels show a total income for the year of 6,993*l.* 10s. 1d., being 1,826*l.* 8s. 8½d. above the working expenditure, enabling the trustees to reduce the aggregate debt by 3¾ per cent. During the year seventeen new chapels have been completed and opened for Divine service, the financial reports of fifteen having come to hand. Their entire cost is found to be 5,735*l.* 18s. 10½d., towards which the sum of 1,550*l.* 7s. 4½d. has been subscribed, being about 27 per cent. of the outlay. The total receipts of the year at home and abroad have been 4,395*l.* 8s. 7½d., being 333*l.* 18s. 4½d. in advance of the former year. The home contributions are 229*l.* 0s. 3d. in advance. The report also stated that the present liabilities of the Society cannot be much reduced, nor its affairs successfully managed, to say nothing of extension, unless the income can be permanently raised to 5,000*l.* per annum. The proceedings of the Conference have mainly comprised business of a denominational interest and religious services.

THE HARDEN PERSECUTION.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Harden, called by placards, was held on Monday night in the Wesleyan Reform Chapel, "in order to give expression to the opinion and feeling of the inhabitants, in reference to the 'alleged persecution' which has recently taken place." There was a crowded attendance. Mr. Hiram Leach occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said this meeting had been called by several friends of Mr. Watmuff, who felt that his character as a man and as a gentleman had been unfairly handled, and who felt, from their knowledge of Mr. Watmuff as a neighbour and as a master, that the statements made by the press should not be allowed to go unchallenged. In some of the statements made by the press, the word "bigot" had been used. The term "tyrant" had also been applied to him; and "envy" and "morbid feelings" were also used in speaking of Mr. Watmuff's conduct. Knowing Mr. Watmuff personally, he could safely say that he had never committed one act of bigotry; that he was no tyrant; and that envy and morbid feelings were strangers to him.

Mr. JOSEPH BRADLEY, blacksmith, in moving the first resolution, said his desire was to re-establish peace in Harden. He had been induced to take some part in negotiating with Mr. Watmuff; and he believed he might say if any of that gentleman's work-people who had been discharged went and asked work they would be taken back. No doubt there were certain conditions; but they were not connected with religion. The resolution he had to move was as follows:—

That this meeting views with feelings of deep sorrow the present disturbed state of the inhabitants of Harden, occasioned by the recent unhappy occurrences.

Mr. JOHN JEFFREY seconded the resolution. He thought the present disturbance had arisen from Mr. Watmuff's love of principle and straightforward conduct. Instead of turning off the men who had displeased him in an underhand or snake-like manner, he boldly stated what his reasons were for parting with them. The aspersions that had been cast on that gentleman's character were altogether devoid of truth.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. SAMUEL HUSTLER, schoolmaster, moved the next resolution, as follows:—

This meeting expresses its belief and full acceptance of the statement of Mr. Watmuff, that the recent events which have taken place, designated "religious persecution," had no religious intention, but their motives were purely of a secular character.

He said the public were asked to believe by a great many journals that Mr. Watmuff posted up notices in his mill, stating that all who attended the Church of England and Church schools must leave, unless they agreed to discontinue such attendance within

three days. That was entirely false; such a thing was never done. It was also stated that all who belonged to the Church would be dismissed from the mill, and yet it was a fact that a great many of Mr. Watmuff's present hands were members of the Church. The true cause of the order which was given was this—Mr. Watmuff found that certain parties outside were working with some of his hands to destroy his authority; and it was only those workpeople who were in communication with the parties outside whom he ordered to be dismissed. He did not wish to mention names, but he certainly thought that the gentleman who had taken the trouble of writing to Mr. Robert Milligan, who was many miles distant, on the subject of this disturbance, asking him to interfere, would have effected far more good had he asked a conference with Mr. Watmuff.

Mr. Heaton said he had no doubt every one would be glad to know that this had not been a religious persecution. It was a very remarkable circumstance, however, that none of the workpeople who belonged to Dissenting bodies had lost their situations. (Hear, hear.) He was very delighted to hear that it was not a religious persecution.

After some further speaking, Mr. N. Taylor moved and the Rev. M. A. Wilkinson seconded, a resolution condemning the charge against Mr. Watmuff in the *Leeds Mercury* of "bigotry and tyranny." Nathan Thomas, who spoke from a seat in the gallery, said that the foreman told him that Mr. Watmuff had said that he would not have any workers who went to church or to the church schools. It was also resolved that a document embracing the spirit of the foregoing resolution should be prepared and placed for signature by the inhabitants of Harden.

THE ENGLISH CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY FOR SOUTH WALES.

The annual conference of this important institution took place at Ebenezer Chapel, Swansea, on Wednesday, July 27th. There was a considerable attendance both of ministers and laymen. The chair was taken by H. O. Wills, Esq., of Bristol. In his opening address, the Chairman said the object of the meeting was to extend English preaching in the Principality. Many English and Irish were now utterly destitute of the means of grace. He felt great pleasure at the thought of having presided at the first meeting of the society at Merthyr, and hoped it would go on better than ever. He hoped the proceedings would be characterised by great earnestness of purpose and good feeling.

The Rev. J. Davies, of Cardiff, read a report of what the society was doing, which showed that it was going on steadily:—

At Blaenafan a few friends commenced an English cause at an old malthouse. They are progressing satisfactorily, and have now engaged a minister. At Pontypool the English Church had been very weak for years, but at the request of this society he (Mr. Davies), and a few others, had gone there to try to persuade the Welsh friends, who had a beautiful chapel, but a very small church, either to give their chapel to the English, or to join them. They all agreed except two, who left to join another Welsh church, and now, in the new chapel under the ministry of the Rev. A. Jenkins, the church is progressing very favourably. At Dowlais a new chapel has been built, and a minister who works well has been settled there. They have paid more than 300*l.* of the debt since his settlement. At Aberdare it is to be hoped there will soon be a good church. At Swansea it is intended to build a chapel first and form a church afterwards; both will no doubt succeed, as that part of the town is increasing rapidly. Pembrey has a small cause getting on well, and is now connected with Llanelly, under the ministry of the Rev. J. James. Carmarthen ought to have had a chapel forty years ago, but it has one at last, and a good minister getting on well. At Milford Haven a splendid chapel has been commenced. The place is likely to become very populous. At Aberystwith it is intended to build a chapel immediately everything has been settled about the site. There is a small cause at Fabian's Bay, near Swansea, which is likely to become very important as the neighbourhood increases. In the lower part of Cardiff, near the docks, there is a small church formed; the only thing wanted is a chapel, and the ground for it is nearly settled for. Penarth, Abersychan, Maesleck, and other places, require to be attended to. At the latter place there has been a small but flourishing church, though the chapel, which is a freehold property, is now closed.

Thomas Williams, Esq., of Penydarren, then gave a statement of the accounts, which had been duly audited and approved. There is due to the treasurer nearly 60*l.*, the income being 260*l.* per annum.

Dr. Rees said that Mr. Davies had omitted Tredegar. The Wesleyan Reformers had built a chapel there, and then found they could not succeed. They came to him, offering to become Independents. He went with Mr. Jeffreys to Penycae, and found there an Independent church. They were very weak for some two years; but since Mr. Thomas, their present minister, came there, the church had been in a very flourishing condition. Hay, Breconshire, also had a chapel. Things were rather dead in that neighbourhood. He had been there lately delivering a lecture, and he had also preached at Maesyronen, in Radnorshire, a venerable old place, which was formerly in a very flourishing condition. Cardigan also had a small cause, which very possibly may become very strong.

Mr. Thomas Davies, canvassing agent, said there was a deficiency this year, owing to the fact that no canvass had been done in London like the last year.

Mr. Lewis, of Newport, in moving that the report be printed, said he thought it would be desirable to have ministers visiting different towns, to call attention to the society before the canvassing agent visits them, so that his object may be thoroughly understood.

John Crossley, Esq., of Halifax, said that one thing struck him very forcibly—that so much was done with so little money. The society had a method of working very cheaply. The object of the society seemed to be to assist in building chapels, and adding to ministers' salaries. If the matter were understood better in London, and other parts of England, no doubt a great deal more aid would be forthcoming. He had been invited to St. Ives to assist at a movement, which might be an advantage elsewhere. One minister was engaged at a respectable salary; then others at a smaller salary were called to assist him. This seemed to him a better plan than having every minister laid down by himself to live or starve. He thought it would be a good plan for some eminent English ministers to take a preaching tour through the neglected country districts, as he understood that had been the great means by which Wales had been evangelised, and brought to its present enlightened condition.

The Rev. J. C. Gallaway, of London, doubted whether it was well to combine the two objects of building chapels and helping ministers; in England it was found better to keep them separate. The Chapel-building Society which he represented had assisted some fifteen places in Wales, and they were willing to do all they could again. The society had thought it better henceforth to give a loan, rather than grants. He thought it would be a great assistance to Wales.

The Chairman said he had been to Llandudno and found they had two chapels there on the same site—the Welsh chapel on the ground floor, and the English above. When there he had heard a minister from the north of England. At the close of the service, a gentleman whom he found afterwards to be Mr. Parry, the minister, came and announced the evening service. He was told things worked well in that way.

Mr. James, of Llanelly, thought it would be a good thing for a respectable layman to accompany ministers to visit chapels and confer with other laymen about the object of this society. They had the day before laid the foundation-stone of a chapel at Park-street, Llanelly. Without any external aid, the church had subscribed more than 400*l.* and another 800*l.* to be paid in five years.

The Chairman found that ministers who were preaching Welsh exclusively had thrown themselves entirely into this movement, though they were likely to lose some of their most intelligent people through it.

Mr. Davies, of Cardiff, had found that the English ministers in Wales were all interested in the movement. But he felt that unless the English churches at Swansea, Cardiff, and Newport would take a deeper interest in it, the society could not go on as successfully as it ought. He was glad to state that the Rev. Henry Richard had promised to give five nights to visit some of the leading towns on behalf of the society. Mr. Davies then read very favourable reports from all the ministers who receive grants from the society. All showed signs of progress. Sabbath-schools and tract distribution were diligently attended to, and several were added to the churches.

Dr. Rees then read a letter from S. Morley, Esq., of London, regretting that he could not be present, but offering conditionally 1,000*l.* towards the objects of the society; 100*l.* to each of ten chapels that would be built within two years, and of a size approved of by J. Crossley, Esq. He thought ten chapels in two years was beyond their resources.

Mr. Crossley thought Mr. Morley would, perhaps, be content with five chapels in the next two years. The loan fund now being raised in the north of England would be at the service of Wales, and might prove a great assistance.

Mr. Lewis, of Newport, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Morley for his liberal offer, thought it would be better if it took the form of a loan.

The Chairman, in putting the resolution to the meeting, said he felt that Mr. Morley was a man raised by God to stimulate others to do good as well as do good himself; and we ought to be thankful to God for such a man. The disposition to do good as well as the means is the gift of God. It was a good plan, he thought, to build a chapel in Swansea, though there was no church. Two chapels had been built in that way at Bristol, and they were soon filled, and now have flourishing churches.

The Rev. D. Rees, of Llanelly, proposing a vote of thanks to the secretary and treasurer, said the Welsh was gradually giving way to the English, and they must be prepared to meet the crisis, or they shall lose the position which they had hitherto held in the Principality.

The meeting was then adjourned till four o'clock, and all retired to the large schoolroom adjoining the chapel, to partake of an excellent cold collation which had been provided by the friends at Swansea.

In the adjourned meeting it was agreed to continue all the grants which had been given last year to the ministers connected with the society, and also to assist the friends at Glasbury, on the borders of Radnorshire, to build a chapel, by giving them 100*l.* for that object. Also a committee was formed to devise means for bringing the objects of the society before the churches of Wales, and secure a greater amount of support by sending delegates to advocate the claims of the society.

RELIGION IN DENMARK.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Elsinore, speaking of the religious habits of the Danish people, says:—

I could, however, hardly go much wrong if I computed all the people who set foot within a house of prayer on a Sunday at something like 1,000, or scarcely one-fifth of the population, of which about one-twentieth are men. So far as my experience goes, the frequenters of churches do not go beyond that average either in the rural districts or in the capital of Denmark. . . . . There are not many countries, I should think, more utterly free from religious squabbles than this dear old Denmark. The Reformation was brought in here with little resistance—none, I may say, on the part of the people, who only remarked that "the new faith would not make the herrings dearer." Ever since that time Lutheranism has lain light and easy on the Danish race—a comfortable doctrine, which its ministers draw extremely mild for the believer. The only sect, I am told, which makes numerous proselytes is that of the Mormons, who, however, must emigrate immediately upon their conversion, as the peculiar application of their tenets to practical life would clash with the civil organisation of the State. Among a race of men so little swayed by fancy or passion, it is difficult to guess what can engender this predilection for polygamy, and I must needs feel inclined to ascribe it to a compassionate feeling of the men for the desolate lot of spinsters, for whom it may be thought that "half a loaf is better than no bread."

For the rest, whatever may be the causes, it annot be denied that of mere outward religion there is but little in Denmark. Such as it is, it is a thing of the Sunday exclusively. On week days every place of worship remains jealously shut up, so jealously, that here, as well as at Roeskilde and Odensee, I had endless trouble, when I wished to see the cathedral, to get at the man who had run away with the keys in his pocket. The churches, even in the towns, have no warming apparatus, and are never heated during the long and severe winter, their icy atmosphere thus supplying an excellent pretext to such as prefer to stay away. There is also, properly speaking, hardly any liturgy; the service is very short, and the part assigned to the congregation shorter still; the rites are too plain and unimposing to create and keep up the interest of any but the best educated worshippers.

Altogether, if you compare one of these Danish communities—as, for instance, Elsinore—with a district of the same extent and importance in southern and Roman Catholic countries, say, Forlimpopoli, Fossombrone, or any of those minor Italian sees, with their bishop, cathedral chapter, collegiate chapter, seminary, and at least 300 priests, with a church, chapel, or oratory at every third house, a dozen convents and nunneries, as many lay confraternities, and an alabaster Madonna, with its ever-burning oil lamps at every street corner, unquestionably this may, by the contrast, be looked upon as a cold-hearted, God-forgetting country. There is no escaping from the fact, however, that the Danes are the most upright, honest, earnest, sober, and strictly moral nation in the world. Three days' experience in the country will soon convince any unprejudiced stranger of the truth of this assertion. How they can afford to be so faithful to the law of God with so little aid from the minister whose business it ought to be to interpret and enforce it, I shall not attempt to decide. The Reformation has certainly here, as in all other Protestant countries, done away with that omnipresence of the mere forms of religion which beset a man in every phase of life throughout the Catholic world, and compel him to lean on the priest from baptism to extreme unction.

CHRISTIANITY IN TURKEY.

The *Levant Herald* gives, as follows, the terms on which the missionary difficulty has been arranged:—

The difference between the Porte and the Protestant missionaries has been arranged on a basis which, if not all that the latter could wish for, will perhaps, under the circumstances, be generally regarded as equitable and satisfactory. The book-stores and offices of the several societies have been reopened, and full liberty given to their agents to preach to all comers in their respective chapels and meeting-rooms—but not in the khans or other public places of Stamboul. The free sale of the Bible in book-stores is permitted, but not its colportage about the capital, nor either the sale or gratuitous distribution of controversial works attacking Mohammedanism. The native converts under arrest are, "for their own protection, and as a measure of precaution against popular excitement," to be temporarily removed from the capital to some English consular station in the provinces, the Porte engaging to provide for their families during their absence. Such, briefly detailed, are the terms of the settlement come to between the Government and Sir Henry Bulwer. The result is, of course, a considerable curtailment of the latitude hitherto enjoyed by our clerical friends; and in certain influential circles in England it will, for this reason, undoubtedly provoke no friendly feeling toward the Porte. But there is more to be said both for and against the compromise—as the arrangement clearly is—than we are free to indicate. This, however, we may remark—that the exile of the native converts will be generally regarded as the least satisfactory feature of the settlement; at variance, as it apparently is, with the spirit of the firman of 1856, which abolished penalties of every sort and degree for religious profession. Of course we do not question the *bonâ fides* of the Porte in its alleged reason for their banishment; but others will be less just, and the act, therefore, is sure to be misinterpreted. If the edict of Gulhané had never been issued, nor the firman of Abdul Medjid been written, religious persecution would now-a-days be impossible; and all the less tolerant, therefore, is public opinion of even the very appearance of oppression for conscience' sake. On the other hand, it would be equally unfair to deny that the arrangements come to leave the missionaries a wide margin of liberty—quite as much, in fact, as public feeling and the police would accord to a body of proselytising mollahs crusading against Christianity at home amongst ourselves.

The following extract from a Constantinople letter

in the *Times* throws some light on the remarkable religious movement in Turkey :—

It would seem that the movement among the Mussulman population has been for some time gaining ground, although it is but very lately that it has attracted any very serious attention. Some time ago a Turk, a resident in the capital, openly abjured his faith, and, together with the whole of his family, adopted the Christian religion. Having qualified himself for ordination, he was received in the Church of England as a minister of the Gospel, and has since, under an English name, been preaching and proselytising among his countrymen. No molestation was offered either to him or to those who assisted him in this work, so long as it was conducted unobtrusively and quietly; but, encouraged perhaps by this tolerance, the missionaries in the capital have prosecuted their object in a manner which has attracted the attention of the Government, and is awakening in the breasts of the Ulemahs and the old Mussulman party that spirit of fanaticism which was gradually, as far as may be judged by outward signs, disappearing in the country. What renders the mischief greater is that the movement is being made the handle for setting in motion political influences, with the evident object of discrediting in the eyes of the Sultan and the country the Ministers who are now governing the empire. When religious enthusiasts in Europe hear of the summary closing and suppression of missionary stores in Stamboul, in contravention of the spirit of treaties, when they learn that the preaching of the Gospel in khans and public places has been interdicted, they will not be disposed to place much confidence in the tolerant views of a Ministry under whose authority these restrictions and impediments against free religious discussions are adopted. But then it must be said that those critics would be arriving at such conclusions in comparative ignorance of the peculiar difficulties under which those in authority are placed, and in their over-eagerness in support of a great cause, and in condemnation of the means used against it, they will probably fail to see that a movement of this sort in Turkey, unless conducted with calmness, moderation, and tact, may cause a commotion which its authors would be the first to deplore. It is not many years since that a Mussulman abjuring his faith would have brought upon himself the penalty of death; that a Christian minister who should have ventured to introduce himself into the Turkish quarters of this or any other city of the empire with the avowed object of proselytism would have forfeited his life in the attempt. Now how different is the state of things! We see Turks openly avowing themselves Christians, and going about with the most perfect security. With such changes, and the encouragement and hope they hold out, it is the opinion of those competent to judge, and who have a knowledge of the peculiar temper and disposition of the people of this country, that those who are entrusted with the propagation of the Gospel should remain content and prosecute their mission in a manner not calculated to offend the feeling and rouse the fanaticism of their hearers. By trying prematurely to promote a crisis they will surely defeat their own object, and assume a solemn responsibility. The Turkish authorities, in justification of the steps they have taken within the last few days to moderate the zeal of the missionaries, have expressed to the representatives of the Powers interested in the matter that, while disposed to pursue a policy of religious toleration, they are bound to point out the danger which may be provoked by stirring up the smouldering embers of religious fanaticism; and they have not disguised from them also the political capital which their opponents were striving to make against them. With all their indolence and apathy, the people of this country are rather of an inquiring mind. A philosophical school on the French model has been springing up among a class who have taken Rénan (whose book has been translated and freely circulated among them) as their apostle. Others have joined in the Protestant movement, which it is affirmed numbers already some few thousand proselytes. It would be more correct to say, however, that this new manifestation bears no definite character, the origin being religious reform in their own faith, of which the missionaries took advantage further to enlighten them. So long as the movement is conducted unobtrusively, and springs out of their own impulse, no harm can be feared; but if it is attempted to anticipate events for which the Turkish population are not yet ripe, if recourse is had to direct propagandism—a propagandism conducted with fanatical zeal, and disregarding the prejudices of the people—the end, as I have said, of the promoters of the movement will be defeated: for it will result either in the defeat of the enlightened party advocating the principle of religious toleration, or in a catastrophe of another kind, both of which it is necessary to avert. We have ourselves had a sad experience in India and at the Cape of the danger of over-zealous manœuvres of this kind, and who can say that the danger would not be as great in this country?

Registration of Burials.—The new act for the registration of all burials in England is printed. Registers are to be kept and copies transmitted to the registrars of the dioceses. For non-compliance with this act, for every offence a penalty of 5*l.* may be imposed. The registers are to be subjected to the same regulations as to searches as provided for by the 6th and 7th Wm. IV., c. 86. A burial-ground is to include a vault or other place.

New Romish College and Church at Oxford.—The site of the old Oxford workhouse, near Worcester College, comprising five acres, barring 24 perches (freehold and land-tax redeemed), was on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., purchased of the guardians of the "Oxford Incorporation" by Mr. Ambrose Smith, hop-merchant of that city, a gentleman of the Roman Catholic persuasion, for the sum of 8,000*l.*, and for the purpose, it is generally stated, of erecting large buildings, including a college, church, priest's house, &c.—*Daily News.*

Birmingham Scholastic Institution for Sons of Ministers.—Three of the pupils of this school have passed the late Oxford Middle-class Examination. The friends of the institution will be glad to be assured of the continued advantages it gives to the sons of ministers. The names of the boys who have obtained the "certificate of merit" are T. Collings, son of the Rev. Mr. Collings, Baptist minister of Gloucester; T. L. Roberts, son of the Rev. Mr. Roberts, Independent minister of Dorrington, Salop; and A. Y. Springthorpe, son of the Rev. Mr. Springthorpe, of Heptonstall Slack, Yorkshire.

Death of Mr. George Offor, of Hackney.—Mr. George Offor died at his residence at Grove-street, South Hackney, on Friday, after a long illness. Mr. Offor in early life was an active member of the Nonconformist body, and took a leading part in the political affairs of the east end of London. He was known in the literary world as a biographer of John Bunyan, and a careful editor of his works, and also as the author of several pamphlets upon the relations of Church and State. He had been for many years one of the justices of the peace for the county of Middlesex.

A Phase of German Rationalism.—There is a great stir at present among the clergy of the Grand Duchy of Baden, owing to the publication of a book by Professor Shenkel, which has caused no little astonishment even in freethinking Germany. The volume bears the title of "Character Bild Jesu," and professes to give an historical representation of the life of Jesus. About 150 of the clergy of the duchy have signed a protest, calling on the authorities to dismiss Professor Shenkel from his present office in the University; but a counter-movement has been got up by his friends on the other side, and the prevailing opinion is that the professor will not be removed, but will continue to be allowed to prepare candidates for the clerical office. The attempt made in this book is to account for all the miraculous events of the Gospel by the theory of myths.

Brother Ignatius.—The brethren of the "English Order of St. Benedict," who established themselves at Norwich in the spring of this year, have been very quiet of late. Indeed it is understood that the number of monks has been slightly reduced. There are still, however, nine or ten monks in the monastery, and the discipline of the order is strictly maintained. Brother Ignatius has been very urgent of late in his appeals for money, and collecting-cards are being handed round in Norwich with the view of assisting him and the order. The Rev. E. A. Hillyard, Rector of St. Laurence, Norwich, and chaplain of the workhouse, has been admonished by the Bishop of Norwich for administering the sacrament to the monks at his church, and in a fashion suggested by Brother Ignatius.

Charge of Plagiarism against a Scotch Minister.—Charges have been preferred before the Established Presbytery of Glasgow, against the Rev. Wm. Porteous, minister at Innellan, for plagiarism. He is charged with having printed a memoir of the Rev. John Johnstone, assistant-minister at Redgorton, the thoughts, language, and substance thereof being knowingly, wilfully, and furtively appropriated by him from a memoir of the late Rev. Wm. Archer Butler, by the Very Rev. Thomas Woodward, M.A., Dean of Down; and with having circulated a sermon entitled "The New Creation," the thoughts, language, and substance of which were knowingly taken, in whole or in part, from two sermons by the late Rev. W. A. Butler, and from a lecture by the late Rev. F. W. Robertson, of Brighton. There are other charges against him, and he is to appear at the next meeting of the Presbytery, in September, to answer them.

A New Mortara Case.—The *Opinione*, of Turin, of the 31st ultimo, publishes a letter from Rome, in which an account is given of the kidnapping of a Jewish boy by a priest. Michael Coen, aged ten, is apprentice to a shoemaker, living at No. 13, at the bridge Quattro Capi. A few days ago, the letter affirms, a priest went there to get a pair of shoes mended, and bid the shoemaker send them home to him by the boy; but, as if thinking better of it, he added, "No, I had better wait for them, and accompany the boy, who otherwise might lose his way." He did so, and in due time the shoes were handed over to the boy, who was ordered to accompany the priest, but instead of going home, the latter went straight to the "Catecumeni," and left the boy there, who protested in vain, and with tears and cries asked to be sent home to his master or parents. The latter were soon apprised of the affair, but all their efforts to have their son released, or even to see him, were vain. The Israelite community at Rome complained to the authorities, but as yet without success.

A New Disqualification for Dissenters.—Is it essential to the existence of the Establishment that none but Episcopalians should have charge of prisoners in our gaols? The authorities at Shepton-Mallet appear to think so; since, in advertising for a guard for the House of Correction, they announce that "candidates for the situation must be members of the Church of England." In virtue of what statute, or of what principle, is it that Dissenters are disqualified for filling so humble, and so exclusively secular, a post as that of a gaoler? It is not that they have hitherto shown themselves unfit to be trusted; for we believe that some of the best guards already in Shepton-Mallet Gaol are Dissenters, and others have even been pensioned off for long and good service. The innovation is, we assume, the result of the appointment of a new governor; but, whoever may be responsible for the offensive announcement, it will be necessary to put a stop to such petty encroachments on the rights of a large class of the population.—*The Liberator.*

Protestant Alliance—International Competition.—About a year ago the Protestant Alliance offered a number of money prizes, amounting in all to 235*l.*, in sums ranging from 50*l.* to 5*l.*, for the best answers in a written examination on Dr. Isaac Barrow's celebrated and elaborate "Treatise on the Supremacy of the Pope." The examination, which was widely advertised, was open to all young men under twenty-four years of age, in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and took place on the 15th of January last, in the cities of London, Bristol, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Dublin, the questions to be answered being in all places the same. From the decision which has just been announced it appears that out of upwards of a hundred competitors fifteen have received prizes, the highest three being the following:—1st prize, 50*l.* and gold medal, to Wm. Park, 3, Abbey-street, Armagh; 2nd prize, 40*l.*, to Charles Jerdan, M.A., Porteous-place, Dalkeith; 3rd prize, 30*l.*, to Hugh Lloyd Hughes, 14, Angel-terrace, Islington, London. Ireland thus carries off the first prize, Scotland the second, and England the third. Of the total sum of 235*l.*, 100*l.* goes to Scotland, 80*l.* to England, and 55*l.* to Ireland. Six of the prizemen are Scotch, seven English, and two Irish.

Clerical Dominancy in Edinburgh.—It is difficult to say to what depth of degradation Edinburgh will be permitted to sink in connection with the clerico-police-tax. The city property has been bonded for the city clergy; the town council has become such that the best men, either Dissenters or Churchmen, cannot be induced to go into it; rouping scenes, in which thousands of the inhabitants meet to sympathise with the persecuted, and by which the peace and character of the city are seriously endangered, are of frequent occurrence; the courts of law are so distrusted that in this matter Dissenters suffer any amount of injustice rather than enter them; the magistrates and their act are so despised that respectable auctioneers will not sell their poinded goods, brokers will not buy them, and no respectable citizen will touch them; and now it seems that, having twice failed to effect a sale in Blair-street, the police-chambers are to be turned into an auction-room. The police have much to answer for in connection with previous sales for behoof of the city clergy; by-and-by, however, if the cells of their office are to be made receptacles for the goods of plundered Dissenters, and their chambers to be devoted as an auction-mart to dispose of the spoil, the citizens may begin to ask themselves whether the police are the servants or the masters of the city, and whether Establishments got up at the expense of all sections of the public are to be made effective in the hands of one section to victimise, persecute, and rob the others. —*Caledonian Mercury.*

Important Church-rate Decision.—The case of Fry and Greata *v.* Treasure came before Dr. Lushington on Wednesday last in the Arches Court for decision. The plaintiffs were the churchwardens of Cheddar, Somersetshire, and on the 6th of February letters of request were opened from the diocesan court of Bath and Wells, authorising the Court of Arches to hear the case, involving the payment of a Church-rate. Subsequently Mr. Fry withdrew from the suit, only one churchwarden being left to continue it. The point for the court to decide was whether one churchwarden could proceed in a case originally instituted by the two, when one had peremptorily refused to proceed further, and had taken the proper legal means of doing so by withholding the proxy which the court required in every case. The Queen's Advocate (Sir R. Phillimore) defended the course which had been adopted. Dr. Lushington, in delivering judgment, said the question he had to decide was whether one churchwarden, there being two, could go on with a suit, and whether there was any power to compel the co-churchwarden to proceed against his will. He had taken great pains to inquire into the matter, but he found no cases which bore upon the issues now raised. It had been urged that churchwardens were a corporation, but he could not find any definition of that term, and he held that it was altogether too vague to define the duties which were imposed upon them. He was of opinion that one churchwarden under the circumstances could not proceed. It might be competent to a court of common law to compel the recusant churchwarden to join, but he did not understand that he possessed that power. He must declare for the protest, with costs against Mr. Greata, the proceeding churchwarden. These were very painful cases, and he regretted extremely that the law was not altered to meet the constant changes with regard to Church-rates. Mr. Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, was Mr. Treasure's attorney, and Mr. Gosse, of Deans'-yard, Doctors'-commons, his proctor.

Religious Intelligence.

Lowestoft.—At a meeting of the members of the Congregational church, held on the 28th ult., it was resolved to invite the Rev. D. J. Evans, of Lewisham, to become their pastor.

Hyde.—The Rev. Thomas Robinson, B.A., of Lancashire Independent College, has accepted the unanimous invitation from the Congregational church, Union-street, Hyde, to become their pastor, and will commence his stated labours on the 14th inst.

Midnight Meeting Movement.—On Tuesday evening last, August 2nd, a meeting was held in the neighbourhood of Shoreditch. Seventy-two poor unfortunates present were provided with refreshment, and the Gospel was faithfully proclaimed to them. The majority who attended seemed deeply impressed by the services. Applications from those desirous of giving up their degraded life are being made continually at the office, 5, Red Lion-square, W.C.

Skipton.—The Congregational chapel has been enlarged by placing the organ in a recess, and the whole building has been painted and decorated,

the cost amounting to 450*l*. An effort has been made by the church and congregation to raise the amount, in addition to clearing off 150*l*. of debt. Previous to the opening services 500*l*. had been raised. The remaining 100*l*. was obtained at the opening services. The Rev. G. W. Conder, late of Leeds, preached on the Wednesday evening, and Professor Newth, of the Lancashire Independent College, on Sunday.

Closing of Surrey Chapel.—The above sanctuary has been closed, and will remain in the hands of cleaners and repairers for the space of six weeks, until the middle of September. The Rev. Newman Hall and Mrs. Hall have left for the continent. A committee has been formed to provide the expense (some 700*l*.), so that the reopening may take place, if possible, free of debt.

Dewsbury.—On Sunday week, the Public Hall, Dewsbury, which has been altered, decorated, and made suitable and comfortable for a temporary place of worship (to contain about a thousand persons) was opened for Divine service by the Rev. E. H. Weeks, formerly for eleven years in Dewsbury, recently of Manchester, and who has again resumed his ministry in this town. The internal transformation of the building was greatly admired, the attendance at the opening services was very large and encouraging, and the audiences apparently much interested.

Straid, Ireland.—On Tuesday, August 1st, a deeply interesting meeting was held in this place to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. James Bain as pastor of the Independent church. Upwards of 300 persons sat down to tea, after which Mr. Bain introduced the business of the evening by a few brief remarks in review of his twenty-five years of labour in this hamlet among the mountains. The meeting was ably addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Kelso, Shut, Stirling, and Fletcher. Could the friends in England witness that meeting and see the triumphs of Congregationalism in connection with Mr. Bain and his church, they would be convinced that Ireland only needs the right agency for an abundant harvest to be reaped. The church numbers upwards of 130 members, and the Sabbath-school nearly 200 scholars.

Congregational Chapel, Southend. — The anniversary services in connection with the above place of worship were held on Sunday, July 31st, sermons being preached by the Rev. Alfred S. Richardson. On the following Tuesday, tea was provided in a spacious marquee erected near the chapel. A very numerous gathering of people assembled to partake of it. The Revs. J. H. Wilson, Thomas Hayward, John Foster, John Curwen, Dr. Bland (of Indiana), and Alfred S. Richardson addressed the meeting. Mr. William Stafford, newly appointed as an evangelist for Southend, was introduced to the people, and the determination to build a new and large chapel was thoroughly discussed. The proceedings were very animated and highly satisfactory, and it is hoped that this will be the last anniversary of the present chapel. Large promises of help have been already given, and the congregation confidently expect to commence their building operations early in next year.

Monkwearmouth.—The Rev. W. Parkes, who for eight years has been pastor of the Independent Chapel, Dundas-street, Monkwearmouth, having accepted a call as minister of an Independent congregation at Blackburn, Lancashire, a farewell tea and public meeting for the purpose of presenting him with a parting testimonial was held in the chapel on Tuesday night. After tea, Andrew Common, Esq., occupied the chair, and was supported by the other Independent ministers of Sunderland, and a number of friends. The chairman said it was pleasing to know that Mr. Parkes was about to enter upon a wider field of labour and usefulness, and that he was leaving the church with the esteem, affection, and confidence of all. The removal was not occasioned either by misunderstanding or unpleasantness, as was shown by the large attendance of members of the church and the testimonials they were about to present to him. In the name of the church, the chairman presented Mr. Parkes with a purse of gold. The Rev. W. Parkes, in accepting the present, manifested considerable emotion; and, after explaining his reason for leaving his present pastorate, thanked the members sincerely for the present, and also for the kindly feeling and forbearance they had showed him. The Revs. H. Angus, J. Barker, J. C. Geikie, W. Shillito, and others, afterwards delivered short addresses.

Beeston Hill Congregational Chapel, Leeds. —The interesting ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of this building took place on Wednesday afternoon, in a plot of ground adjoining the Beeston-hill Day and Sunday-school, which, in its sacred and secular operations, has been successfully carried on for some years. The necessity for the erection of a chapel in this neighbourhood had its rise in the evangelistic efforts of the churches worshipping at East-parade and Queen-street Chapels, Leeds. Sunday-schools were first established, the one in connection with Queen-street Chapel being at Hunslet Moor-side, on the Dewsbury-road. Subsequently the schools became preaching-stations, and the result is now sought to be united in the formation of an organised church. The style of architecture adopted is the Italian, though somewhat freely treated, as is evident from the adoption of spire, turret, and transept gables. There will be sittings for about 700 persons. The architect is Mr. William Hill, of Albion-street, Leeds, and the total cost, we understand, will be about 2,800*l*. A hymn having been sung, and prayer offered by the Rev. E. R. Conder, Mr. Jowett proceeded to lay the stone in the usual way, under which, in an hermetically-sealed bottle, were deposited the coins of the realm and some newspapers. The stone also bore a suitable inscription, setting forth the fundamental truths of Congregationalism, and also stating the causes which had given rise to the erection of the building. Mr. E. Baines, M.P., then addressed the assembly, congratulating the neighbourhood on the success of the labours which had been put forth at Beeston-hill and Hunslet Moor-side. A tea-meeting was afterwards held in the schoolroom, and subsequently a public meeting took place. Mr. E. Baines, M.P., presided, and the meeting was also addressed by the Rev. E. R. Conder, and other ministers and gentlemen.

Staplehurst.—The Congregationalists of this town held their anniversary meetings on Monday and Tuesday, the 1st and 2nd inst., and, as usual, the gatherings were very large. On Monday afternoon vehicles of varied kinds might be seen arriving from the parishes around. The chapel was crowded, and an attentive audience listened to a discourse from Romans v. 1, 2, preached by the Rev. T. B. Hart, of Dover. A tent nearly 100ft. in length had been erected by kind permission of T. B. Hudson, Esq., who, with his wonted liberality, had granted the use of his spacious meadow, which adjoins the village. In this tent, which had been suitably decorated with flowers, shrubs, mottoes, and flags, about 650 persons were supplied with tea. The evening service was also held in the tent, at which about 800 persons were present. The Rev. W. Grigsby, of Whitfield Tabernacle, London, preached from Proverbs xvii. 22, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine." After the sermons collections were made on behalf of the Pastors' Retiring Fund. On Tuesday the children of the chapel school were treated to an afternoon's recreation, in which they were joined by their teachers, parents, and friends. Tea was served to about 300 children and 150 adults, making an aggregate of 1,100 in the two days. Addresses, hymns, with votes of thanks to T. B. Hudson, Esq., for the use of his pleasant grounds, and to others; also to the Rev. E. Balley, their respected resident minister, who had presided over the assembly, and a verse of "God save the Queen," closed the day's enjoyments.

Congregational Church, Eastbourne.—The first anniversary services in the above place of worship took place on Wednesday, the 27th ult. In the morning the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., preached an eloquent and impressive sermon from Psalm lxxii. 6, "He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass." In the evening a public meeting was held, the Rev. A. Foyster in the chair. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. N. Hall, LL.B.; Andrew Reed, B.A., St. Leonard's; W. Porter and H. Stewart, of Hastings; R. Hamilton, of Brighton; and J. Kennedy, M.A., of Stepney. In continuation of the anniversary services, sermons were preached on Sunday last, the 31st ult., in the morning by the Rev. E. Mannering, of London; and in the evening by the Rev. J. Kennedy, M.A., of Stepney. We understand that the anniversary collections amounted to 51*l*. 15s. 10d. Since last anniversary the sum of 401*l*. 2s. 5d. has been obtained towards the building fund, making a total of 2,059*l*. 7s. 9d., and reducing the debt to 910*l*. 4s. 3d. In addition to upwards of 400*l*. collected for the building fund, the ministry has been supported, a Sunday-school of 150 children called into existence and sustained, various useful societies originated, and all without coercing a single individual for a single penny piece. We call special attention to these facts at a time when the entire parish is thrown into a ferment in consequence of an effort to raise about 125*l*. by means of a 1½d. Church-rate. Incalculable injury is done to religion by the compulsory method of raising funds for religious purposes, and that it is a method as unnecessary as it is objectionable must be obvious, if we only consider the facts and figures now placed before our readers in connection with Pevensey-road Congregational Church.—*Eastbourne Gazette.*

Henham, Essex, New Congregational Chapel and Schoolroom.—In this quiet village, near Saffron Walden, a new Congregational chapel, in place of the old one, and a new schoolroom, were opened on Tuesday, last week. The erection of the former was mainly owing to the bequest in 1863 of 1,000*l*. by Mr. Edward Sandford, of Bollington Hall, towards the building of a new chapel. Another sum of 500*l*. was left to be invested and the interest applied towards maintaining the chapel when built. A neat marble tablet in the new building commemorates the munificent bequest. The chapel and schoolroom have been erected from the plans of Mr. Jasper Cowell, architect, &c., 5, Tyndale-place, Islington; the builders are Messrs. Thoday and Clayton, of Cambridge. The style of architecture is mixed, approximating more to the Norman. The chapel is capable of affording accommodation for about 500 persons; and altogether presents a very commodious and substantial aspect. The schoolroom is also intended for a lecture-room, and for adult classes, &c., its dimensions are fifty-three feet by twenty-two feet. The total expense of chapel and school is estimated at 1,390*l*. Against this there are the following amounts: 1,000*l*. and 15*l*. interest left by the late Mr. Sandford; subscriptions (including a donation of 50*l*. by Messrs. Wells and Perry, of Chelmsford), 216*l*. 1s. 6d.; subscriptions promised, 78*l*.; the collections in the afternoon and evening amounted to upwards of 30*l*. A cheque for 10*l*. was also announced from John Dixon, Esq., of East Hanningfield. A large number of persons from the surrounding districts were present at the opening services, and among the ministers who took part in the services were the Revs. T. B. Sainsbury, B.A., of Finchingfield; D. Davis, of Stanstead; W. Cuthbertson, B.A., Bishop Stortford; Winspear (Wesleyan), Bishop Stortford; J. S. James, of Newport; Carpenter, of Clavering; Maidment, of Little Hadham; J. C. Rook, of Thaxted; Norman, of Castle Camps; Barnard, of High Easter; H. Allon, of Islington; Hames, of Barkway; Hardman, of Takely; Wood, of Sawbridgeworth; T. Hook, of Chelmsford, &c. The afternoon service commenced at two o'clock; the chapel was very much crowded. The Rev. J. S. James, of Newport, read the lesson and offered up an applicable and heartfelt prayer. The Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., offered up the dedicatory prayer. A very excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Allon, of Islington, from John i. 4, "In him was life; and the life was the light of men." The service being concluded, those present adjourned to the schoolroom to partake of tea; a large tent accommodating those whom the school would not hold. J. Perry, Esq., of Chelmsford, presided. The evening service began at 6 p.m. The Rev. D. Davies read the lesson and offered up prayer. A most impressive discourse was delivered by the Rev. T. Hook, of Chelmsford, from 2 Cor. xii. 9, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." Collections were made after each service, amounts of which we give above.

Dunedin, New Zealand. — The foundation-stone of the first Congregational church in the flourishing town of Dunedin, the capital of Otago, a town which now has a large population, was laid on the 22nd of March by his Honour, J. H. Harris, Esq., the Superintendent. The proceedings commenced by a hymn being sung, after which the Rev. D. M. Stewart engaged in prayer. This concluded, the Rev. R. Connebee came forward and handed to his Honour a silver trowel, on which the following inscription was engraved:—"Presented to the Hon. John Hyde Harris, Esq., Superintendent of the Province of Otago, on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the first Congregational church in Dunedin, 22nd March, 1864. The Rev. R. Connebee then addreseed his Honour, and explained the principles and doctrines of Independents, and read a description of the proposed building. A bottle containing the journals of the day, a memorial on parchment with the names of all connected with the church and the building, and some coins, was then put into the receptacle prepared for it, and the stone was lowered into its place. His Honour then spread some mortar in the usual fashion, and declared the stone duly laid. He said that for him that day would have more than ordinary interest, for he was brought up in the midst of Independency, and that faith was hallowed to him. He paid a compliment to the zeal and the ability of the Rev. R. Connebee, and expressed a hope that he would be spared for some time to labour as a faithful minister, and to be useful in his generation. A prayer was then offered up by the Rev. J. Parsons, and a blessing concluded the ceremony. A *soirée* in connection with the same church was held in the evening at the Odd Fellows' Hall. The room was quite full, and a considerable amount of interest was shown in the proceedings. In addition to several ministers and leading citizens, his Honour the Superintendent was present; Mr. J. Bathgate occupied the chair. The Rev. R. Connebee read a report, which stated that there were about 105 members and 100 Sunday-school children, and that more than 1 000*l*. had been promised towards the new building. His Honour the Superintendent referred to the great changes that had taken place in Dunedin during the last fourteen years, when he first landed. At that time, the spot on which they were was a swamp, inhabited only by wild fowl, and covered with flax. There were not above fifty or sixty houses; and one place of worship was more than sufficient for all the requirements. In fact, it was better able to contain those attending than the eight churches were now. He felt great satisfaction at knowing that in a few months there would be an additional place of worship. The Rev. Messrs. Stewart, Parsons, and Fraser also addressed the meeting, after which a collection was made, and the meeting terminated.

Correspondence.

THE EXETER ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—The Exeter election is over, and the result will doubtless be followed by much crowing of political bantams, and other cock-a-doodle-doos who believe in the Conservative reaction. But the real secret of Mr. Coleridge's failure was his utter unsoundness on the Church-rate question. That gentleman refused to pledge himself to total, immediate, and unconditional abolition. His hobby was that Church-rates should still be levied on all persons who were not proved to be Dissenters by some means to be defined by law. This would still give the right of compulsion, of seizure of the goods of Episcopal defaulters, of sale by auction of all goods thus seized, of prosecution in the courts of law, &c., &c.; in short, it would retain the worst features of the compulsory system in their application to all men *not proved to be Dissenters*. Nothing could shake Mr. Coleridge's adherence to this method of dealing with Church-rates. The result is that he is beaten by a majority of twenty-six. Any candidate equally unsound on this vital question would meet with the same fate. It is of no use for Mr. Coleridge, or any other gentleman, to contest Exeter in the Liberal interest, *with this flaw in his Liberal creed*. With parties so evenly balanced in the old city, a defect like this will be sure to induce a sufficient number of men, who form a part of the back bone of Liberalism in the community, to abstain from voting. Mr. Divett, the late respected and lamented member, was thoroughly up to the mark on the Church-rate question. Hence the men who feel strongly on that

point had a right to expect that no one should have been asked to succeed Mr. Divett who did not come up to his standard of genuine Liberalism. They were galled with the idea of being put back in the national legislature on this great controversy.

We are glad that the Exeter election has happened just now. It may teach the Whig Government a lesson. Leading politicians and Liberal committees may learn the fate which awaits their candidates in many other constituencies besides Exeter, if those candidates hesitate or boggle over the Church-rate question. In most of our boroughs, and in some of the counties, there are many electors (quite sufficient to decide a close contest) who will not vote for any man who would reverse the majorities so often obtained in the House of Commons in favour of a satisfactory and final settlement on this point.

Had Mr. Divett been living, and had *he* been Lord Courtenay's opponent, Mr. Divett would have been returned by a small but respectable majority. The policy of the men who stood aloof, and to the last declined to vote for Mr. Coleridge, was in our view a righteous one. The time has come when such a stand must be taken and adhered to, without flinching, through evil and through good report. It will bring all trimmers and hesitators to their senses. The result has proved that Mr. Coleridge did not conciliate a single Conservative by his scheme of settling Church-rates, but he alienated many staunch Liberals. Tories are seldom led away from their party allegiance by the "herring trail"; but genuine reformers are often justly exasperated by such efforts to catch Conservative votes.

Mr. Coleridge's plan of settling the Church-rate question is exposed to fatal objections:—

1. Its acceptance by Dissenters would lay them open to the charge of being animated by a mere regard to the question of a few shillings more or less in or out of their own pockets. They would virtually declare that they cared nothing for the principle involved, provided they were exempted from its operation.

2. It ignores the fact that a large and rapidly increasing number of Liberal Churchmen are as decidedly opposed to compulsion in religion as are the most "ultra Dissenters." Many clergymen (among others the High-Church Mr. Bennett, of Frome) object to Church-rates; but Mr. Coleridge would leave all men, not proved to be Dissenters, to the operation of the system as now practised, which would clearly be gross injustice to thousands of earnest and zealous Episcopalians of every school of theology. They believe Church-rates levied by compulsion to be a source of scandal and weakness to the Church. Why should *they* be compelled to suffer this wrong?

3. The retention of the worst features of the present method of enforcing payment, so far as Churchmen are concerned, would be a great hardship to them, especially *in the present divided state of the Church*. The incumbent might be a Colenso or a Pusey, and the Episcopal ratepayer might be a devoted Evangelical who never darkened the doors of the parish church, yet he would be compelled to pay to ministrations that his soul abhorred.

4. Besides, Mr. Coleridge's plan of "ticketing Dissenters" has been more than once rejected and denounced by all parties in the House of Commons. It has been pronounced there by decisive majorities an utterly impracticable and unsatisfactory suggestion. It was really an insult to the intelligence of the Dissenters of Exeter to ask them to accept this stale and rejected scheme.

5. The Dissenting portion of the Liberal body have clearly a right to demand that a measure, the necessity of which has been affirmed by repeated majorities in the House of Commons, should not be burked in the forthcoming general election. In this conviction thousands of Churchmen share. We will be no parties to "putting back" this question. This would be aiding the "Conservative reaction" most effectually. The position we have gained we ought not in common justice to be asked to surrender, and they who would compel us to do so must take the consequences of their impertinence. On no account will we allow the fruit of past triumphs to be taken from us. The only possible settlement of this question is total, immediate, and unconditional abolition; and the man who is not up to that mark should never be brought forward. Let Lord Palmerston, Mr. Brand, the secretary of the Reform Club, and all so-called Liberal committees, learn *in time* the important practical lesson which the Exeter election should teach them.

Yours as ever,
NONCON DOWN WEST.

August 5, 1864.

THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE DISSENTERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—The Liberal party has just lost a seat at Exeter, under circumstances which, I hope, will excite general attention. Some time ago, Mr. Coleridge expressed his intention of becoming a candidate for the borough. He was then informed that his views on ecclesiastical questions did not meet with the approval of the Nonconformist body. Notwithstanding this, he persisted in his intention, and when a vacancy occurred by the death of Mr. Divett, became a candidate. The result is, that instead of Exeter returning one Liberal and one Tory, it now returns two Tories. Thirty years ago it returned by large majorities two Liberals. The cause of the apparent reaction is simply the "old Whigs" of the borough do not seem to be able to acknowledge the advance of political principles which has taken place during the last thirty years. They have chosen to ignore the Church-rates and other questions, and the issue is that they find themselves—nowhere.

What is a Liberal? Is he a man he, on the most rising and important questions of the day—viz., the ecclesiastical questions—votes always with Mr. Disraeli and Lord Robert Montague? Is he a man who is a quarter of a century behind Lord Palmerston, Earl Russell, and Sir George Grey? The last-named men are not advanced Liberals; but Mr. Coleridge calls himself a Liberal, and yet cannot follow such leaders!

There is a mock and spurious Liberalism now rising which ought at once to be checked. It is represented by such persons as Mr. Beresford Hope, who is now cultivating Stoke-on-Trent; Mr. Akroyd, who is now cultivating Halifax; and Mr. Coleridge, the rejected of Exeter. From all such men may we be delivered! If we are not, we shall see the true Liberal party wrecked and almost abandoned.

I believe that the Exeter election is the first of any importance which has occurred since the announcement of the electoral policy of the Dissenters. The Exeter Whigs chose in this case to forget the just claims of the Nonconformist body. They receded thirty years in order (for what reason I cannot imagine) to secure a Coleridge, and having returned a Courtenay, who, although a Tory, will vote exactly as Mr. Coleridge would have voted. Mr. Hope and Mr. Akroyd would do the same. Their professions of Liberal principles are simply a sham. Whenever such men appear, they should be at once told that the Liberal party cannot agord to be split in twain for the sake of gratifying their personal ambition. They should seek congenial constituencies, and profess themselves to be what they really are—Tories of the most crimson type.

I think a debt of thanks is due to the staunch Exeter Dissenters who have pointed this moral.

Yours faithfully,
A LIBERAL.

August 8, 1864.

THE EVANGELICAL CLERGY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—Some time ago you inserted a letter from the Rev. C. Nevile relating to the now celebrated sermon of Mr. Spurgeon on Baptismal Regeneration. I do not know whether any notice has been taken of this letter in your columns, but it appears to me that, for the sake of many who may have heard with respect and admiration of Mr. Nevile's sacrifices in the cause of truth, the statements contained in his letter should not be allowed to be entirely disregarded.

And first, I would examine the imaginary case that Mr. Nevile suggests. The unfortunate youth whom he describes is no doubt one example out of many. Still I would suggest that he is unfortunate quite as much from his own want of decision, and regard for what is right, as in the circumstances which surround him. Surely Mr. Nevile cannot seriously mean that the mere assurance of a bishop, or any one, however elevated in station, ought to convince any properly-educated young man that black is white; and yet that is the conclusion to which Mr. Nevile's argument apparently leads. I know that all, and especially young men, are apt to be led by others, yet I cannot but think that the defence which Mr. Nevile sets up for the men is the severest condemnation of the system which these very men support. But the gravest part of the evil is undoubtedly the fact alleged by Mr. Nevile, that in after life, these same men, being in many cases convinced that the Jesuitical explanations of common words which they received from the highest spiritual authorities in the land are as dangerous as they are untrue, still continue to hold the offices which they could only receive on the strength of declarations which they do not believe. Now, Sir, I quite agree with Mr. Spurgeon that for any simple-minded, honest man to act thus in matters of daily life would be an atrocity. How much more so, then, when the matter in regard to which the deceit is practised is the worship and ministry of God! How can a minister who feels, as Mr. Nevile allows that many do, that he is holding his preferment on false pretences, stand up rightly and tells his hearers, "Speak ye truth one with another"?

Mr. Nevile's excuse for smothering all the difficulties and remonstrances of conscience is simply that to yield to conscience would be temporal ruin. Suppose for a moment that it would be so. What then? Did that argument retain the 2,000 ministers who seceded in 1662. If that argument had been considered sound and well-pleasing in the sight of God, the page of history would have possessed no long roll of martyrs who freely gave up all they had, even to life itself, that they might not dishonour God. But I reply, also, that I do not believe that ruin or starvation would follow. Privation and suffering might, and doubtless would, in many cases, be the result; but are the clergy of the Established Church alone to be exempt from the common lot of humanity? I do think Mr. Nevile is somewhat unjust and capricious, but I can only account for it by supposing that his knowledge of the clergy is such that he feels that they *are* incapable of endurance. If the young men who belong to the class from which the ranks of clergymen are chiefly recruited are so incapable of getting their living in any other way they are unfortunate indeed.

But Mr. Nevile alleges, moreover, that *he* or any clergyman is forbidden by law to get his living in any other way. I am no lawyer, but I am informed by a friend who is, that the last statute on the subject which virtually repeals all former ones, explicitly forbids all clergymen having cure of souls from exercising certain trades, &c., thus implicitly allowing all clergymen who have not cure of souls to exercise any calling they like.

In conclusion, I would remark that I entirely differ from Mr. Nevile as to the effect of Mr. Spurgeon's sermon. I believe it has done more good than any other one publication on the subject. I know that some, I believe very many clergymen, and others who ought to examine the subject, and have never done it, have had their attention called to it by this sermon of Mr. Spurgeon's; and I rejoice that a man in Mr. Spurgeon's position, whose sermons are read infinitely more widely than any political pamphlets, should have felt it his duty to preach and publish such a sermon.

I would suggest, too, to Mr. Nevile that instead of contenting himself with lecturing the Dissenters, he should entreat the Evangelical clergy of the Church of England, to whom it is owing that that Church survives to this day, to withdraw from their equivocal position, dishonouring as it is to God and injurious to the nation. It may be true—it *is* true—that their position is a national sin; but they are a part of the nation far more influential than the Dissenters, and they are consequently far more responsible to God for it, to say nothing of the fact that they alone profit by it.

I am, yours truly,
WM. S. ALDIS.

Cambridge, August 2, 1864.

POPULATION OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—The Congress of the Confederate States has recently issued a Manifesto to foreign Governments declaring "the principles, the sentiments, and the purposes by which they have been and are still actuated," which appeared *in extenso* in the *Times* of last Thursday. With the arguments and appeals put forward in that document, I do not propose to deal. On one sentence only I venture to offer a few remarks. The Manifesto says:—

"The world must now see that 8,000,000 people, inhabiting so extensive a territory, with such varied resources and such numerous facilities for defence as the benignant bounty of nature has bestowed upon us, and animated with one spirit to encounter every sacrifice of ease, of health, of property, of life itself, rather than be degraded from the condition of free and independent States, into which they were born, can never be conquered."

In reading this passage, I was puzzled to account for the assumption that there are eight millions of people "resolved"—as it is said in another sentence—"to die freemen rather than live slaves"; and I am still at a loss to account for the statement consistent with a regard to truth. It is manifest from what has been quoted that the Confederate Congress cannot mean to include in the "eight millions" of "free men" the 3,608,157 slaves, which at the date of the last census were part of the population of the seceded States. But if alone we take the white population of the seceded States, it will be found to fall very far short of the alleged eight millions, as the following table will show:—

	Whites.
Virginia	1,097,373
North Carolina	679,965
Tennessee	859,528
South Carolina	308,186
Georgia	615,386
Florida	81,885
Alabama	520,444
Mississippi	407,551
Louisiana	354,245
Texas	415,999
Arkansas	331,710
Total	5,672,272

Deducting the population of Arkansas, which has, I believe, voted itself back into the Union, and of Western Virginia, which of its own free will has elected to become an independent State united with the North, we have then a population of only five instead of eight millions, or three-eighths less than is claimed by the Confederate Congress. How this enormous discrepancy is to be accounted for is a mystery, unless we are to suppose that the Legislature at Richmond felt warranted in claiming as subject to their sway, Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware, which, though Slave States, have never passed an ordinance of secession. Or, did the Confederate Congress suppose that "the civilised world" would accept their statistics, exaggerated for a purpose, without a thought of inquiring into their accuracy?

That Congress claims to speak on behalf of "eight million people." If allowance be made for the great loss of life during the three years and a-half of this deplorable war; for the Union sympathies of a larger portion of the inhabitants of Louisiana and Tennessee, and of a majority (as is admitted by the *Richmond Examiner*) of the population of North Carolina, the Southerners "resolved to die free men, rather than live slaves," cannot be fairly reckoned at more than four millions, or one half of the alleged number.

No doubt the right to freedom is not to be measured altogether by population, and the smaller the number of Confederates, the greater their gallantry in resisting the attempt to bring them again under the Federal yoke. But these are not sufficient reasons to justify an attempted fraud on "foreign Governments" and "the civilised world" in an official document issued by an assembly which must have been fully cognisant of the real facts of the case.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
FREE SOIL.

London, August 8, 1864.

RETIREMENT OF THE REV. THOMAS MANN.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—A week or two ago I received a letter from Cowes, Isle of Wight, informing me that the Rev. T. Mann was about to retire from the public duties of the ministry, and to resign the charge which he had held for more than forty years. He was settled in another place before going to Cowes, so that he must have been in our ministry nearly half a century. In the letter referred to it was mentioned that Mr. Mann's congregation wished to present to him a pecuniary testimonial on his retirement, but as they were neither numerous nor rich, they hoped to be aided by friends at a distance. Then came a very natural question—*Could I help them?* Could I procure from any of our richer co-religionists a few contributions towards their object?

It would afford me great satisfaction to be the means of doing this. I cannot, however, afford the time to make direct personal applications for the purpose. I shall be much obliged, therefore, if you will allow me through the medium of your journal "to cast" a few grains of "bread-corn on the waters," in the hope that "they may be found" after a *few* days (not "many"), coming up in the form of paper or gold—a transformation it will be very pleasant to witness.

It is just forty years this month since I went to my first charge in the Isle of Wight. I have been intimately acquainted with Mr. Mann all that time. His name is not that of a great popular preacher—a James, an Adkins, or a Guthrie; jubilee testimonials, or retiring gifts, to such men, easily find contributors throughout the country. Mr. Mann, however, has worked well in his own sphere, and his labours are not unworthy of recognition. He has published several very useful books, practical and devotional, which have had their circle of readers, and have not been without result. I would particularly mention, however, and call attention to the fact, that Mr. Mann devoted himself, in a most remarkable manner, to the case of foreigners calling or detained at the port of Cowes. From the number of Germans he found among these, he set himself to study the German language, and acquired the power not only of conversing with them, but of *preaching to them*, in their own tongue. His efforts to benefit poor German emigrants detained at Cowes, were recognised in the highest quarter, so that our friend was associated (if I mistake not) with some from Osborne in dispensing the royal bounty. I wish I could put into the hands of those to whom I make this appeal my friend's little book entitled, "My German Schools and Schoolmasters." It is an account of the circumstances by which he was led to interest himself in the Germans, to study their language, and to seek their welfare. It narrates his

interviews with Dr. Steinkopff, the assistance he obtained in preparing to hold German services, the success of these attempts, the interest of the Germans in them, with various facts connected with individuals, interviews with the sick, marriage-services, letters, hymns, and other matters deeply interesting. I will append to this letter some of the testimonies I have met with to the interest of the work, and the usefulness of the author's labours. I am sure if the book was in the hands of some of our friends, they would readily aid Mr. Mann's people in making up their proposed parting gift to the retiring pastor.

I shall be very glad if this letter should induce any, to whom a few pounds or a guinea or two are no object, to send me a contribution to be forwarded to the committee at Cowes. "The rich have many friends." Popular men have "troops" of such, who can easily raise for them hundreds or thousands of pounds. A comparatively unknown humble worker may be equally worthy of some kind recognition, but it is not so easy to gain the ear and move the hand in such a case. If the *impulse* of any, on reading this, is to put the hand in the pocket, or to take the cheque-book from the drawer, I should like to be allowed to say to such, "Follow that impulse; do so *at once:* you may forget all about it when you have put down the paper, and got engaged with other things."

My friend Samuel Morley, Esq., gives me, to begin with, 25*l*. Of course I don't expect many such sums, and I trust my mentioning this one will not obstruct lesser contributions.

I am, &c.,
T. BINNEY.

Upper Clapton, N.E., August 8, 1864.

P.S. The following testimonies to "My German Schools and Schoolmasters," by Mr. Mann, will, I think, interest many:—

"A deeply interesting record of the labours of a Congregational minister . . . . . all honour to him . . . . . God grant him a rich measure of success."—*The Record*, London newspaper. "It reveals a soul willing to encounter, and determined to overcome, a serious difficulty for the good of others."—*Portsmouth Times and Naval Gazette*. "Most interesting in itself, and peculiarly so to me:—for I, too, have always felt greatly interested for German emigrants."—The Rev. G. Prothero, A.M., rector of Whippingham; and the author's respected associate in unrecorded labours. "To the end of life, I hope you will be able to retain the delightful impression which remembrance of such scenes is calculated to produce."—The Rev. T. S. Crisp, President of the Baptist College, Stokes Croft, Bristol. "Pounds instead of shillings should mark the satisfaction with which I have perused the touching details of your 'German Schools and Schoolmasters.'"—Herr Carl Ahlfeldt, Professor of Languages, Ryde. "The little book has excited so much interest, that it will give pleasure to have copies to present to friends—for which I beg to enclose postage stamps."—W. Wilson, Esq., Sherwood Hall, Nottinghamshire.

SUNDAY DRINKING AND SUNDAY CLOSING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—An inquiry has been commenced to ascertain whether either in Scotland or in the Isle of Man, one death has occurred from Sunday drinking, since the Sunday Closing laws have, in those places respectively, came into operation. Many during that period have occurred in England. A list of them is being prepared, and if your readers will kindly forward such cases as they become acquainted with to the Sunday Closing Offices, at No. 7, Bowlalley-lane, Hull, they will be added to it. The following is from "The Slain in Liverpool during 1863 by Drink," written by the Rev. J. Jones, a Congregational minister in Liverpool:—

Inquests.—February 10th.—On the body of ——, 28 years of age, said to be a widow of a captain, who resided at the house of ——, for the last fortnight. On Saturday evening she went out, and afterwards took home two seafaring men, but no drink was taken into the house that night. On the following morning Mrs. ——, the deceased, and a Mrs. ——, drank a quart of ale amongst them. Between five and six o'clock on Sunday evening Mrs. —— found the deceased lying on the floor of an upper room, as she thought in a fit. On Monday morning she found her still lying on the floor, and then found she was dead. A *post-mortem* examination was made, from which it appears that excessive drinking was the cause of her death, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

October 3rd, on the body of ——, 32 years of age, a coachmaker, who resided at ——. The deceased, who was a person of intemperate habits, had complained of a pain in his side for the last nine or ten years. On Sunday morning he went home drunk, and went to bed. He was found dead in bed some hours afterwards. Verdict, "Died from excessive drinking."

November 14th, on the body of ——, an "unfortunate" who lived in a house of ill-fame in ——. She was greatly addicted to intemperance, was drunk on Sunday night, and was found dead in bed on the following day. A *post-mortem* examination showed that death was the result of excessive drinking, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

December 19th, on the body of ——, widow, who resided with her son, a ship-bread baker, in ——. It appeared that deceased was fond of drink when she could get it. On Sunday evening she was intoxicated, and about two o'clock the following morning was found by her son lying upon her face dead upon the floor of her bedroom. A *post-mortem* examination showed that the cause of death was asphyxia, from excessive drinking, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

December 28th, on the body of a painter, 31 years of age, who resided in ——. He was greatly addicted to intemperance, and went home very drunk between twelve and one o'clock on Sunday morning. He vomited very much, and became something like sober, but an hour or two afterwards his wife observed "a great change come over him," he sank rapidly and died about six o'clock the same evening. Verdict, "Died from excessive drinking."

May 13th, on the body of ——, a flagger, who resided in ——. On Saturday night last he had been out drinking, and his wife brought him home at twelve o'clock the worse for liquor, and left him in the kitchen. She then went to a neighbour's house, and returned in about an hour, when she found him at the bottom of the cellar-steps in a pool of blood, with a severe wound on the back of his head, life being quite extinct. It was evident the unfortunate man had fallen down the steps, and the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

June 24th, on the body of ——, infant daughter of ——. The mother of the deceased, who keeps a disreputable house in ——, was out on the spree on Sunday night, got drunk, and went home about eleven o'clock. A neighbour took her the deceased, cautioning her to be careful as to how she treated it, as she was drunk. Subsequently a girl living in the house with ——, who had also been out, went home about twelve o'clock, and knocked for admittance, but found the door bolted inside, and no one answered her. She got in at the window, and found —— asleep on the sofa, with the deceased by her side, with her arm across its body and her breast covering its face. The woman took up the child, but found it was dead, with froth at the mouth and nose. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the woman.

Thus Sunday drinking works death, and if such are the terrible results in one town in one year, what must they be in all England year by year? Such are the fruits of the Sunday liquor-traffic. Yet an honourable member declares that he is "promoting the good morals and comfort of the whole community," by voting for its continuance!

When the United Towns' Association of Licensed Victuallers expressed to Mr. Roebuck their approbation of his course in opposing Sunday closing, he avowed in reply that his purpose in doing so was to aid, so far as he could, the good morals and comfort of the whole community; and that it was a source of great "satisfaction" to him that he was at the same time benefiting so important and respectable a body as the licensed victuallers.

No statesman is to be envied who can glory in supporting the Sunday liquor-traffic.

Thanking you, Sir, for kindly inserting this letter in your journal,

I am, yours very truly,
EDWARD MATHEWS,
Travelling Secretary of the National Sunday-Closing Association.

Sheffield, August 5, 1864.

THE TONIC SOLFA SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—In your issue of Wednesday last, I find a letter from the Rev. John Curwen, relative to a concert I had the honour to conduct at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the 27th ult., in which he takes occasion to find fault with me in regard to certain things said to have been stated in the public announcements of that concert.

In reply thereto, may I venture to request the insertion of the following:—The Rev. J. Curwen states that "in the newspaper advertisements and in handbills all over the town, he has seen the announcement of a Tonic Solfa Concert at the Crystal Palace today." This is simply an inaccuracy. No handbills were issued, and therefore could not have been seen; and the bills that were issued by me did not contain any such expression. Truly the large posters issued by the Crystal Palace Company did state that fact; but with these I had nothing to do, and did not see them till midday on Monday. Neither for these, nor for the newspaper announcements, am I therefore responsible.

But will the Rev. J. Curwen be good enough to define his terms? What is it to solfa? Could not Mr. Hullah and his pupils call themselves solfaists as well as those taught by the Rev. J. Curwen's letter notation? And what is a tonic solfaist? Might not the Lancashire sight-singers, with hosts of others, adopt that fuller title, in common with Mr. Curwen, and my coadjutors and pupils, those who use my music, in which the tonic line or space is shown to the eye throughout the music, and from which the various intervals are counted, even as the Rev. J. Curwen teaches in his books of instructions—may not they in all justice adopt the title if they so choose?

I therefore see no impropriety in so calling the concert of the 27th, though certainly it was not called so by me.

The Rev. J. Curwen also says, that the words relating to the terms of admission state one shilling, "as usual," the inference which the Rev J. Curwen wishes to be drawn from the said words "as usual" being, as I suppose, to convey to the public the idea that I wished it to appear that this was not the first concert of the kind we had held. I beg most distinctly to deny that any such words appeared in any of the bills issued by myself or by the Crystal Palace Company. He may possibly have seen them in the newspaper advertisements, but then they would refer to the fact that Wednesday is an ordinary one-shilling day, and therefore the term, "as usual." With regard to "misleading the public," I have only to say that "the public" have been so long and so well acquainted with the name of W. S. Young in connection with Crystal Palace and other popular concerts, that it would be quite impossible to mislead it. Will the Rev. J. Curwen permit me to ask him where he obtained the information "that the concert of this day is intended to be a demonstration of what the dotted-line system can do rather than the tonic solfa method"? Does not the Rev. J. Curwen know that there are thousands of tonic singers, singers who use the tonic principle in interpreting music from the established notation, who never learnt his letter notation? Is the tonic principle a new thing? Let his own works reply. Of what, then, has the Rev. J. Curwen to complain? Simply, we presume, that we did not use his letter notation on Wednesday last, but preferred music printed upon that plan which, as he so kindly says, has been introduced by myself, and which we consider as great an improvement upon his letter notation as was his improvement upon Miss Glover's tetrachordal method.

The Rev. J. Curwen, moreover, in the early days of his musical career used to tell us that his method was the easiest stepping-stone to the established notation, and was not intended to supersede it. Now, however, he considers its study so unimportant as to make optional the old-notation requirements of his certificates of proficiency.

Let it, however, be distinctly understood we have no quarrel with the tonic solfa method; we believe, as ever, that it is the best initiatory process for a learner, but consider that so soon as he has mastered it, he should go on to apply its principles to the established notation.

Apologising for trespassing so much upon you,

I am, &c.,
W. S. YOUNG.

3, Wood-street, Spitalfields, August 8.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S EXPEDITIONS.

The *Poona Observer*, of June 21, contains an account of a visit paid on the preceding day to the Free Church Institution in Poona by Dr. Livingstone, who was at the time the guest of his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, at Daporee. We take the following from its columns:—Dr. Livingstone arrived about eleven o'clock, accompanied by Captain Leith, and was received by Mr. Gardiner, the missionaries, Major Candy, Mr. Ross (Presbyterian chaplain), several officers, and other gentlemen. Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Gardiner, and several other ladies were also present. Dr. Livingstone examined some of the classes, and afterwards the young men belonging to the institution, being assembled in the large room to the number of some hundreds. Mr. Mitchell introduced the illustrious traveller as one with whose fame they were familiar, and whose well-known work they had seen. In reply to a request from Mr. Mitchell, that he would give his opinion as to the prospects of South Africa in regard to its future civilisation and trade,

Dr. Livingstone stated that those prospects were not nearly so bright now as they had been when he arrived with the expedition at the mouth of the Zambesi river in 1858.

They procured the assistance and countenance of the Portuguese Government, and an order to its subordinates to give them every aid and support. The harbour was a remarkably fine one, and everything promised well when they made their first expedition up the river. They found the neighbouring country thickly peopled, and some caution was required to avoid any demonstration, lest they should be attacked from the banks with the arrows of the natives, who knew no Europeans but the Portuguese, and were not disposed, from what they knew of them, to give strangers a very friendly reception. When they came down, however, they found that these hostile feelings had disappeared, and that they were well received. The expedition was sent out by the English universities, and accompanied by the excellent and devoted Bishop Mackenzie, who was so regardless of his own comfort, that there is little doubt he lost his life thereby. The Portuguese had long carefully excluded all other Europeans from the country; he himself had obtained access to it on a former occasion by entering it from the south and coming down the river, when they could not for very shame compel him to go back. This was in 1856, and on his return two years later the expedition was allowed without difficulty to enter the country, as just stated. On ascending the river, several cataracts were encountered, which Dr. Livingstone had not seen when he came down. On this account they took the direction of the Shirè river, and ascended the beautiful valley of that name. It contained a thick population, flourishing villages, and fine cultivation. Above was an elevated plateau some thousand feet above the sea, which strongly resembled the Deccan, except that it was covered with trees and grass, and which, like the valley, contained a large population. But about that time the Portuguese sold a quantity of firearms and ammunition to one of the tribes, to be paid for in slaves. The tribe, thus armed, swept the whole neighbouring country like a scourge, killing the men in the villages and carrying off women and children into slavery. This produced a terrible famine, in which large numbers of the survivors perished; and the fine valley of the Shirè was transformed literally into a valley of bones. Whole villages were found without people; it was impossible to walk half a mile without seeing a skeleton lying by the way, and you might open the door of a hut and find skeletons lying inside—sometimes two side by side, with a little skeleton between them. On another expedition they ascended the main stream of the Zambesi, passing thirty-five miles of rapids, and reached Lake Nyassa, which was 270 miles long and 60 or 70 wide. Above it was a range of hills, which proved when they had ascended it to be another plateau or table-land nearly 4,000 feet high, extending for many miles, and filled with villages and cultivation. The government was of the patriarchal form, each village being entirely independent under its own head man or chief. They had no central government, and each chief had to be negotiated with separately. In one respect there was a great contrast to this country, for there were slaves in every village chained up and working for their masters. They were inhabitants of other villages, who had been kidnapped and brought into captivity. They were held by a collar round the neck, to which a long stick was attached, and they were thus secured for the night, or when made to travel pushed along by the proprietor, who held the other end of the stick and followed. Many of the slaves were quite little children, whose parents probably had been killed, for Dr. Livingstone did not believe that their mothers sold them. Their houses were like those made by the poorer natives of this country in the villages. In reply to various questions, Dr. Livingstone, who seemed good-naturedly desirous to satisfy the curiosity of those present, stated that the cultivation by the African natives was very good, though it was entirely carried on with hoes. They were very industrious, and whole families worked in their gardens, which were often very large; men, women, and children all together, an infant in addition being sometimes seen deposited under a hedge. They grew beans of all kinds, pumpkins, maize, and rice, but not wheat or grain. Cotton they grew, spun, and wove themselves. They had no trade, except occasionally in tobacco, nor any idea of money, and they had to carry with them on the expedition a large quantity of calico, glass beads, and brass wire, for purposes of trade; and here also they were liable to disappointment, for if the glass beads were not of the kind in fashion among the ladies of the villages, you were done—they would not be taken on any account. They had no idea of letters, nor ever acquired any. Reading appeared to them a sort of witchcraft; and they often amused themselves with the chiefs by writing a word in large letters and sticking it up, when one by one the members of the expedition would whisper it, without previous consultation, into the ear of the chief, who felt an ever new surprise at the accomplishment. The people on the coasts were of the negro type, but with much variety of head and feature, and it must by no means be supposed that they all resembled the negroes outside the tobacconists' shops in England. As a rule they all had what we should call rather flat

noses. They, however, considered the noses of Europeans too sharp, and he (Dr. Livingstone) was not prepared to say which opinion was right. He thought that by establishing a permanent British settlement, by gradually opening trade among them, and the introduction of missions, their condition might be improved; but the occurrences he had described had for the present done much to hinder any measures of the sort.

The boys rendered thanks with a round of very hearty applause, and Dr. Livingstone left to visit one of the girls' schools belonging to the mission. He subsequently paid a visit to the Poona College, in the Neutral Lines, and heard some of the Sanscrit reading. In the afternoon Lady Frere held a reception, to which all the ladies and gentlemen in the station were invited to meet Dr. Livingstone.

THE WEATHER AND THE HARVEST.

THE HOME COUNTIES.—Another week of splendid weather has enabled considerable progress to be made with the harvest, and a large breadth of corn has been cut, and some portion carried. Not a drop of rain has fallen, and so far nothing has occurred to prevent the corn being cut and carried in the finest and driest condition. The reports as to the probable yield vary with the character of the soils referred to; but the general tendency of the accounts is unquestionably favourable. On good strong land the crops are decidedly an average, but on light, poor, and badly drained soils the plant is thin, and the effect of the long-continued drought is evident. Taking this district as a whole, the result would seem to be more favourable than might have been expected, considering the unusually dry character of the season. Indeed, it will probably be found that, as regards the grain crops, the influence of the drought has been overrated. Springs, ponds, and watercourses are drying or dried up, and in many instances cattle have to be driven a considerable distance for water, or water "drawn" for miles. Of grass, in the usual sense of the word, there is, so to speak, none, the blade, such as remains, being completely dried up. Turnips and mangolds are already suffering, and unless a marvellous change takes place very speedily, these crops must fall wofully short. The effect of this upon the stock of meat in the country will be most disastrous.—*Sussex Advertiser.*

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—During the past week farmers have been very busy with harvest work in this county, and the crops have been secured in excellent condition. On the best heavy lands the yield of wheat is spoken of as likely to be abundant and the quality good. The barley crop varies considerably. Mangolds and turnips are very bad crops, and will scarcely be worth gathering. The pastures were, perhaps, never worse, and there are very slight prospects of a supply of winter keep.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—The dry, warm weather which has prevailed of late has ripened the corn crops rapidly, and with the present week reaping will have commenced in all parts of this county. There are many and various reports as to the probable yield of the wheat crop; the majority of accounts, however, agree that the yield, although not approaching that of last year, will be at least up to the average.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.—In Worcestershire and the vale of Gloucester corn-cutting is general, and partially on the Cotswold Hills and in Herefordshire. Although the wheat is thin in places there is a good crop elsewhere, and we may, on the whole, look for a full average crop. Barley, the next grain in importance, is better than wheat, and is, in fact, one of the best crops grown for some time past. Beans, on the other hand, are a very bad crop, the worst grain crop grown this year. Spring beans are blighted, short in the straw, and thinly podded. Peas and oats are a good average crop. Vetches failed a good deal in the winter. Seeds very bad.

THE NORTHERN COUNTIES.—In a letter to the *Times*, Mr. J. H. Turner, land-agent, Richmond, gives the result of his observations as to the crops of 1864 in the northern counties. Taking into consideration the exceptional character of the spring and summer, his report on the whole is favourable. The wheat crop will be backward, and he believes it will turn out below an average, but he says it is too soon to give an opinion as to the extent of the deficiency. Oats, he thinks, will prove an average crop, and barley and beans a full average, which we suppose means rather over the general average. Potatoes are also looking well. Turnips, however, are a failure, the seed in many cases never having come up, whilst in others the young plants were destroyed by the fly, or are only now getting good root in the land.

THE WHEAT CROPS.—A carefully collected return of the wheat crop in England, Scotland, and Ireland, gives, under the several classifications of quantity, the following results:—In England 15 counties are marked "below an average"; 17 counties are an "average;" and 7 counties are a little "above an average." In Scotland 11 counties are "below an average"; and 6 counties are an "average." In Ireland, 3 counties are marked "below an average"; 9 counties an "average;" and 3 counties "above an average." The result is that 29 counties of the United Kingdom and Ireland have below an average crop of wheat, 32 counties have an average crop, and 10 only are slightly above an average.—*Observer.*

THE WEATHER IN SCOTLAND.—The weather, which had been very dry and somewhat warm for several weeks, began to give signs of change on Thursday and Friday last, and occasionally slight showers of rain fell. On Sunday there was a very heavy fall of rain. This change in the weather, so welcome after the long drought, is unfortunately accompanied by a considerable degree of cold.—*Scotsman.*

HARVEST PROSPECTS IN IRELAND.—It is gratifying to find that the accounts of the harvest from all parts of the country still continue to be most favourable. A change in the weather has taken place, which has tended to remove the apprehensions that were entertained in some places, in consequence of the long prevalence of drought. An early and abundant harvest is now anticipated.—*Dublin Express.*

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 10, 1864.

AMERICA.

(Per the Damascus, *vid* Greencastle.)

NEW YORK, July 29 (Evening).

General Sherman is drawing his lines closer around Atlanta. Hood claims a victory in the battle on Friday, and announces that he captured 22 cannon and 2,000 prisoners. Wheeler's cavalry has routed the Federals near Decatur, capturing their camp. General Hardie is operating in Sherman's rear. Rosseau has rejoined Sherman, after destroying thirty miles of the Montgomery and Atlanta Railroad.

On Tuesday last Lee attempted to outflank Butler's position at Bermuda Hundred. To check this movement Grant despatched the 2nd Army Corps to the north bank of the James River, and drove the Confederates from their breastworks, capturing four guns. He afterwards advanced to attack the Confederate fortifications. Fighting continues.

General Early is still on the Virginian side of the Potomac, at Falling Waters. The Federals are guarding the fords of the Potomac at Williamsport.

The military authorities have enrolled, armed, and equipped all the negroes in Baltimore.

The guerilla warfare continues in Missouri.

The Confederate cavalry have re-entered Kentucky.

The *St. Louis Democrat* asserts that the Government has received information that several thousand persons, including Mr. Vallandigham, are implicated in a scheme for the formation of a North-Western Confederacy.

The *New York Herald* asserts that a board of naval officers has decided that the persons rescued from the Alabama by the Deerhound were prisoners of war. The Government has approved this decision.

July 30, Morning.

Grant has moved two corps to the north side of the James River, and is entrenched 10 miles from Richmond. It is reported that he has abandoned the siege of Petersburg, and will demonstrate against Fort Darling. Lee's movement towards Butler's rear was caused by the movement of Grant's troops.

A large Confederate cavalry force entered Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, this morning.

Howard has succeeded M'Pherson.

Money easier. Gold, 255¾.

(*Vid* Father Point.)

NEW YORK, July 30, Evening.

Pennsylvania telegrams assert that the Confederate invasion is more formidable than was supposed. The Governor has issued a proclamation, stating that the invading force was larger than he expected, and that arms would be furnished to the citizens for the defence of Harrisburg.

Mosby, with 500 cavalry, is in Maryland, near Edward's Ferry.

Money easy. Gold, 256.

(From the *Times* Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, July 29.

On the 27th the Confederates were repulsed in an attack upon a portion of Grant's army which had been transferred to the northern side of the James River. They lost 50 prisoners and four cannon. It is semi-officially announced that a new movement by the whole of Grant's army is in progress. Great results are promised, but no hint of the details is allowed to be published.

The censorship over the news from the Upper Potomac is rigidly continued.

Non-official accounts from Washington and Baltimore state that the Confederates are still south of the river, engaged in removing to Richmond the harvests in the Shenandoah valley.

The Federal loss in the retreat from Winchester was 1,200 men.

The non-publication of General Sherman's official despatches causes apprehension that his situation is not favourable. No fighting since the 22nd.

JULY 30, Noon.

The Confederates have advanced in three columns into Pennsylvania, and occupied Chambersburg.

A portion of General Grant's army has crossed the James River, and occupied Deep Bottom, ten miles from Richmond. The siege of Petersburg is supposed to be abandoned.

LORD PALMERSTON AT BRADFORD.

Lord Palmerston arrived at Bradford on Monday, and yesterday entered the town from the Peel Park, where a procession had been organised, to the new Exchange. In the park the cheering was not very general, but was more demonstrative along the route. An address having been presented to his lordship by the Exchange Company, Lord Palmerston proceeded to lay the foundation-stone of the new Exchange with the usual observances, and afterwards made a short speech, speaking of the building as "a temple of peace." A blessing on the new Exchange having been asked by the Vicar of Bradford, the "National Anthem" was played, and this stage of the day's proceedings, which were conducted throughout most successfully, was brought to a close.

In the evening there was a banquet to a "select" company, and afterwards a great meeting in St. George's Hall, at which some 4,000 persons were present. Here his lordship received an address from the corporation and the Chamber of Commerce; after which, Mr. Rand moved, and Mr. Wickham, M.P., seconded the following resolution.

That this meeting desires to express to the Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston the great pleasure and satisfaction which his lordship's visit to Bradford has afforded, and to express an earnest hope that he may long live in the enjoyment of intellectual and bodily vigour, to take, as he has done for so many years past, an important part in the great councils of the nation.

The resolution was agreed to amid much applause. There was not the slightest symptom of any opposition, although the chairman especially invited those who held a contrary opinion to declare it. Lord PALMERSTON, on rising, was received with several rounds of enthusiastic cheers. He proceeded to address the assembly on the free-trade struggle, the progress of commerce, and the blessings of peace.

Mr. FORSTER, M.P., in proposing a vote of thanks to the High Sheriff, reminded the noble lord that the people of Bradford had extreme opinions.

The noble lord must not conclude from their conduct and from the reception which he had met with that the people of Bradford had abandoned those opinions. They felt that the occasion was not a desirable or fitting occasion to express those opinions, and their forbearance must be taken as proof not that they did not desire their political privileges, nor that they were not worthy of them. (Loud cheers.) He would only make one more political allusion. The people of Bradford thanked the Government with all their heart for keeping the country at peace. (Cheers.) But they were not peace-at-any-price men, and if the honour and the interests of the country really required it, they would be as ready to make any sacrifice as any other part of the kingdom. (Cheers.)

Sir FRANCIS CROSSLEY, M.P., also indulged in some political allusions:—

For twelve years he (Sir F. Crossley) had sat in the House of Commons, and he had usually listened with great satisfaction to his speeches, but he must confess that on some occasions he had listened to them with a great deal of pain,—he meant on those occasions when the noble lord had given the cold shoulder to political and ecclesiastical reforms. (Loud cheers, with some hisses.) He mentioned this because meetings had been held in the borough of the unenfranchised classes to consider in what manner they ought to receive the noble lord, and the decision which some wished to come to was to receive him with profound silence. (Cheers and laughter.) The noble lord would not misconstrue the cheers with which he had been received, for those who were to have kept silence had been the loudest in their hurrahs. The noble lord had not had the advantage of mixing with the working classes as most of them, and he might also be excused for not meeting them so much. He therefore, begged the noble lord not to go away with the impression that because he had been received with so much cheering the working men of Bradford had therefore forgotten that what they wanted was to obtain their share in the representation of the country. The noble lord had now seen the working men of Bradford face to face. He had borne testimony to their intelligence and manliness, and he (Sir F. Crossley) trusted that when he returned to London he would go to his right. hon. colleague, Mr. Gladstone, and tell him that he had not made so great a mistake as he thought he had when he made his Reform speech. (Loud cheers.)

Lord Palmerston left afterwards for Saltaire, the residence of Mr. Titus Salt; and, having inspected the celebrated works at that place, will leave for town this afternoon.

An interesting ceremonial took place at the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum yesterday morning. The Prince of Wales unveiled the statue of his illustrious and lamented father, which has been erected within the precincts of that institution. The statue is of colossal proportions, and is carved out of a block of pure Carrara marble.

There was a considerable fall of rain in the metropolis yesterday morning—greatly needed after the long drought. The rain appears to have been by no means confined to the metropolitan district, but was probably general throughout the country. A sensible fall in the temperature is the result.

Yesterday the Donkey Show was opened at the Agricultural Hall. The Prince of Wales received the prize for the best foreign donkey; but the most noticeable class was that of donkeys used in the ordinary labours of English donkey life. The aspect of these animals was very satisfactory.

By the arrival of the West African mail we are glad to learn that all the troops have been removed from the Ashantee frontier. The Ashantee war, in which we never saw an enemy nor fired a shot, is therefore at an end.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day, the arrivals of old home-grown wheat were very moderate; but there was a fair show of new produce on the stands for the time of year. The trade for all qualities was dull, at Monday's decline in the quotations. New wheat was quoted as follows:—Red, 42s. to 44s.; white, 46s. to 48s.; and Talavera, 48s. to 50s. per quarter, both foreign wheat, the market was moderately supplied. Generally speaking, the trade ruled firm, at about previous quotations. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, on former terms.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Deacon."—We would have inserted his letter if it had not been couched in objectionable terms.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1864.

SUMMARY.

A universal longing for rain in the midst of the harvest is a rare phenomenon. But the protracted drought has so parched up the country, dried up watercourses and ponds, and burnt the herbage, that the refreshing showers of yesterday, which were probably general throughout the country, have been welcomed with joy, and we hope with gratitude. The air has been cooled, the ground refreshed, and sunshine has again burst forth to facilitate the reaping of a harvest, which, if not abundant, promises to be of about average productiveness and superior quality.

Lord Palmerston still fills the public eye. Yesterday his lordship was at Bradford, laying the foundation-stone of the new Exchange in that thriving Yorkshire borough. Matters did not go so smoothly as usual. Last week there was a meeting of working men at which strong resolutions were adopted, expressing "disapprobation and disappointment" at his lordship's breach of faith on the Reform question, protesting against the assumption that they were "apathetic and careless" on the subject, and pledging themselves "on the occasion of his lordship's visit, to observe a dignified but significant abstinence from all enthusiastic cheering." These resolutions were embodied in an address to Lord Palmerston, which the authorities of the town refused permission to present to his lordship. The Working Men's Committee therefore issued a placard recommending a silent reception. Such advice could hardly be expected to be followed in the midst of a dense and miscellaneous population. Lord Palmerston's admirers cheered all the more demonstratively in consequence of this incident, and the respectable crowd which filled St. George's Hall cordially welcomed his lordship. But even here the warning voice was heard. Mr. Forster and again Sir F. Crossley, unmistakeably hinted that his lordship's hearty reception was not to be construed into entire approval of his political policy, and that the forbearance of the people that day "must be taken as proof not that they did not desire their political privileges, nor that they were unworthy of them." We heartily rejoice at these protests. Having begun they are not likely to diminish, if his lordship is to be hawked about the country during the recess with a view to resuscitate his faded reputation, and monopolise the credit of financial measures which belongs to another and greater member of his Cabinet.

Paris has been the scene of a state trial which remarkably illustrates the value of Imperial professions favourable to freedom. Thirteen conspicuous members of the Liberal party, including two deputies, whose homes had been entered and ransacked of papers, were indicted before a legal tribunal for belonging to an electoral association contrary to the law which prohibits political meetings of more than twenty persons. It was alleged, but not proved, by the Imperial prosecutor, that the accused were members of a central organisation in Paris comprising some thirty persons, with affiliated committees in the provinces, formed to influence the elections to the Corps Législatif. They were defended by M. Jules Favre in a speech so brilliant and exhaustive, that M. Berryer, who was retained by one of the accused, refused to add a word to it. Each of the defendants was eventually convicted of belonging to an unlawful association, and fined 500 francs. The decision will, of course, be contested in a higher court, though with doubtful results. If confirmed, it will in future be impossible for any body of men in France over twenty to band together to influence an election. It is in this way that the Imperial Government meets the rising spirit of the French people, and makes the exercise of universal suffrage "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare."

The Danes accept with ill grace the humiliating terms which King Christian's new Cabinet has been obliged to accept at Vienna. The Legislature cannot undo the work of the negotiators; but the Upper House has put on one side a proposed address to the King, and the Lower Chamber withholds supplies till a more detailed statement of the position of the country has been furnished by the Government. The Ministers carry themselves very stiffly, and altogether the situation is complicated. Meanwhile, it is said that Austria and Prussia will propose to the Federal Diet to carry on jointly the Provisional Government of Schleswig-Holstein—a device for getting the Federal troops out of Holstein, preparatory to more decisive measures. It is evident that the opposition of the Frankfort Diet is of even less consequence than the protests of he Copenhagen Parliament.

The struggle rages fiercely around Atlanta. General Sherman has isolated the garrison except on the south-west, in the direction of Macon, and his attempt to take possession of that road obliged General Hood to issue from his defences, with a view to break through the Federal lines. A fierce, sanguinary, but indecisive battle was the result. Sherman continues to draw his lines closer around the Confederate arsenal, but the railway at Decatur communicating with Richmond, has apparently been recovered by the Confederates, while thirty miles of the Montgomery line have been destroyed in one of the daring raids of the Federal cavalry. With so desperate a fighter as Hood, Atlanta is not likely to fall soon, but unless he can be reinforced from Virginia, this great prize seems almost certain to fall into the hands of his formidable antagonist.—It is said that Grant has abandoned the siege of Petersburg, and has entrenched himself ten miles from Richmond on the north side of the James River, thereby removing the pressure from the Southern railways.—Confederate cavalry have again appeared in Pennsylvania, and other bodies of Southern troops are appropriating the harvest in the Shenandoah Valley.

"STARRING IT" IN THE PROVINCES.

"The whole to conclude with a serio-comic, burlesque extravaganza," is a common announcement of the playbills. Much the same thing may now be said of the political season. It commences in November with a short series of Cabinet Councils about which rumour is busy, mysterious, and false. Then follows the great drama of the Parliamentary Session divided into three acts. Last of all is the Premier's tour in the provinces, in which, of course, he sustains the principal character, talks nonsense, and receives fulsome laudation from all the other actors in the scene. It is not the most fortunate thing for *the country* that the First Lord of the Treasury is an octogenarian, but the fact certainly tells wondrously in *his* favour. Were he twenty years younger, we sometimes suspect, he would retire from his Parliamentary work for needful repose, and leave the press and the public to discuss, in his temporary absence, the tendency and fruits of his policy. Lord Palmerston's vivacity, coupled with his age, is a valuable stage property, and he makes the most of it. He gives men frequent occasion to contrast his untiring activity and the play of his humour with the number of his years, and in their admiration of the tenacious vitality and youthful agility of his intellect, to lose all remembrance of his political work. "What a jolly old blade he is!" exclaim they who, at the close of a long and arduous Session, listen to his after-dinner speeches, and care not just then to remember what will probably be the effect of his administration upon the future of the country. The wonderful old man has only to present himself to a gaping audience and crack a joke, to get himself absolved from all political blame, and elicit a full chorus of praise. As Mr. Knightley said, the noble lord gets all the halfpence and his colleagues all the kicks.

It would be churlish to grudge Lord Palmerston his right, if he pleases, to "star it" in the provinces at the end of the Session. It is, assuredly, a somewhat novel custom, and one which, if resorted to by others, would be of doubtful success. It has in it a spice of demagoguism. It looks like an appeal from the senate to the multitude. The noble lord is not, perhaps, indifferent to popularity, but we question whether it is any fondness for it which prompts him to follow up the termination of his engagement as leader of the House of Commons by public appearances in country places. When one looks at the systematic way in which the thing is done, and hears it invariably trumpeted in loudest tones by the *Times* as something approaching to a miracle, we can hardly help surmising that it is an item of the noble lord's domestic policy. It is thus that he wipes away from his name any stains which the Session may have left upon it. When even his most slavish supporters begin to get into their heads the glimmer of a notion that Lord Palmerston's statesmanship is neither very profound nor very successful, what better can he do than show *himself*, and by the glitter of his wit upon the sombre background of his age, attract their attention from political to personal considerations? He knows well enough that a few meaningless courtesies, interspersed with occasional *jeux-d'esprit*, from a real live Premier, will go a long way towards obliterating any unfavourable impressions that may have been made by his ministerial mistakes. Is he not the great man of the day? Can any other name compare with his? After royalty, who is so distinguished? Who can retain political dislikes in the face of his genial and jocular senility? And so the noble lord puts himself in contact with the people, and rubs off from his reputation whatever tarnish it may have acquired during the Session. He gets himself talked about in a fresh capacity and connexion. He gets himself lauded by a new set. And, whatever may be the settled judgment of the public, his *claquers* are able to point to his reception in the provinces, and affirm that the country heartily endorses the acts of his administration.

Shall we altogether err in supposing that the extra-Parliamentary proceedings and utterances of our aged Premier, have this year a special significance? The noble lord is personally popular, but it can hardly be said that he has increased the electoral chances of his party. Next summer, if not earlier, Her Majesty will be compelled by the Constitution to dissolve the present Parliament, and summon another. If it be true, as we fear it is, that the Liberal party are destined to have no cry to conjure with but the name of the noble lord at the head of the Government, it will be all the more indispensable that he should keep himself well before the public, and especially in such performances as will conciliate good-will to himself without provoking criticism of his policy. "Palmerston for ever" will hardly succeed in commanding a majority, unless, as an election cry, it can be dissociated from a political programme. "Palmerston and Peace" might be tried, but the constituencies could with difficulty be prevailed on to accept the noble lord as the special representative of a pacific policy. "Palmerston and Retrenchment," would hardly do in the face of our extravagant estimates. "Palmerston and Reform" would be howled down as a mockery. No, if the Liberals *are* to have the Premier's name as a party watchword, it must be in its naked simplicity, without any annex but "for ever." But then, inasmuch as that name will not herald any definite political principle, it is the more necessary that it should carry with it personal recommendations. This, perhaps, can best be done by "starring it" in the provinces between this and November. Cutting first sods, laying foundation-stones, celebrating the anniversaries of social and local institutions, will give the noble lord opportunities for commending himself to public admiration and sympathy in his most attractive capacity—and the newspaper press, by referring to him on such occasions "as the wonderful old man," and "the true type of a genuine Englishman," will prepare the way for using his name with effect when the General Election comes round. We are somewhat ashamed at being obliged to confess, that the average Liberal electors are by no means too knowing or too earnest to be taken in by this device. But we doubt whether, after all, it will succeed in neutralizing the party discipline of the Tories—and we apprehend that a General Election, unless it be made to turn upon some more pointed pivot than the name of Palmerston, will not prove a successful one for the Liberals.

The remarks we have made may seem to bear hard upon the noble lord. They are meant rather to reflect upon that state of popular opinion which offers the slightest chance of success to this sort of non-political agitation. The chief of the administration ought to be judged of by his political, not by his personal qualities. We have had something too much of the adulation of old age, as if it were in itself a guarantee for good government. Let every statesman be tried by the standard of his

statesmanship. We ourselves, quite as much as any, admire the fascinating vivacity and dexterous versatility of the aged man who holds the helm of Government in this country. We are sometimes astonished at the success with which the noble lord can say a series of nothings in the liveliest and most charming manner. But we wish to judge of Lord Palmerston, as a Prime Minister, by the drift of his counsels, and the character of his Parliamentary speeches and measures. It is not because he is full of vivacity at eighty years of age, that he is qualified to guide the destinies of this nation. No doubt he has vast knowledge, especially of foreign affairs—but of what public advantage is this unless it be wisely as well as patriotically applied? We have happily just escaped a European war—but certainly not by the aid of the noble lord's prudence. We have discovered the hollowness and mischievousness of our Foreign Office traditions—but not with his good-will or consent. We have no domestic policy—and the only measures which have made the existing Government respectable were originated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and passed, in more than one instance, in spite of the Premier's ill-concealed indifference to them. It is doing injustice to his colleagues to allow Lord Palmerston to run away with all the credit of their statesmanship. We know of nothing which is specifically the noble lord's own, but arming the country in a time of peace, and building fortifications at an expense of millions sterling. And yet he, forsooth, is the "consummate statesman" whom all Englishmen are expected to defer to.

The country, however, has to thank itself for this kind of thing. It is getting rich—why should it be querulous? It is making money under a Palmerston administration—why not give *him* the credit of it? Time and events will, no doubt, cure the evil, and check the demoralisation. Until then, "starring it" in the provinces will probably be accepted as a legitimate part of the machinery of Government.

THE EXETER ELECTION.

After a very hard-fought contest, Lord Courtenay, eldest son of the Earl of Devon, has been returned for Exeter in preference to Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., by a small majority of twenty-six. The veteran Liberal, Mr. Divett, has been replaced by a young Tory, whom all the local magnates of the neighbourhood gathered together to support, and whose vote will be uniformly given to the Conservative party, because, as he says, every point connected with their foreign policy, every point connected with home government, and their policy in connection with the Church, meets with his warmest approval.

Lord Courtenay was opposed by a gentleman of high family repute, estimable social qualities, distinguished position at the bar, and moderately Liberal views. Why then was Mr. Coleridge rejected? Because he did not, like his opponent, represent the whole of his party—because the leaders of that party chose to ignore one of the cardinal features of the Liberal programme by putting forward a candidate opposed to it. There is no doubt that Mr. Coleridge lost his election because a sufficient number of Liberal electors to turn the scale in his favour abstained from voting. There will of course be the usual outcry against impracticable and narrow-minded men and "Marplots." But those few Nonconformist electors who had the courage to stand aloof in this contest, have earned the "unfeigned respect and honour" of the defeated candidate for "the sincerity of their convictions," and the admiration of their brethren throughout the land. They have also the much higher satisfaction of knowing that they remained true to the old Liberal colours while the greater portion of the party deserted them.

One strong justification for their abstention policy is to be found in the antecedents of this election. The city of Exeter has for some time past been represented by a Liberal and a Conservative. Mr. Divett, the Liberal, died. During the thirty years of his Parliamentary career he not only supported all measures of progress and reform, but more than a generation ago himself brought forward a Bill for the total abolition of Church-rates. At that time there was but a small minority in the House of Commons favourable to the measure. But the Church-rate question, like every other based on equitable principles, has grown in public favour, has been a test of Parliamentary candidates, has commanded large majorities in the House of Commons, and has been accepted as the most distinct line of demarcation between Liberals and their opponents. The occasion arises when it is necessary to find a successor to the veteran abolitionist of thirty summers. And what do the leaders of the Liberal party in Exeter do? They simply turn their backs upon Edward Divett and the principles he was once and again elected to defend, and choose a candidate to fight their battles who frankly declares in public—"I will not give up the right which the Church of England possesses of enforcing upon her members the maintenance of the fabric"; who tells his friends in private that he must vote against abolition; and who, on this vital and leading question, holds precisely the same views as his opponent. It is, therefore, by the Liberal leaders, and *not* by those who withheld their votes, that the Liberal cause in Exeter has been betrayed. If Mr. Coleridge had entertained the same views on ecclesiastical questions as Mr. Divett, there is no doubt he would now be the member for Exeter.

Under the pressure of weighty facts occurring around him, Mr. Coleridge found it possible to forego his previous opinions on the Ballot, and declare his conversion to the principle of secret voting, as the best means of protecting electoral independence. It is to be regretted that he did not see equal reason to alter his view on the subject of Church-rates, and commit himself to voluntaryism for the support of the fabric. The wisest of Parliamentary leaders have been for years busy in devising an acceptable compromise, and have given up the task in despair. To advocate compromise *now*, means simply the indefinite continuance of the present law. Of all plans, that of laying a tax on nominal Churchmen is the greatest delusion, and the least likely to be carried, besides maintaining unimpaired the compulsory principle. It is hardly fair to a Liberal constituency for a candidate to be thrust upon them who goes back a generation for some exploded scheme, to avoid the necessity of supporting the simple abolition of Church-rates. Dissenters, have, therefore, no more to hope from a Coleridge that from a Courtenay, whose party has, indeed, proposed the very plan advocated by his late antagonist.

The Exeter election was therefore a peculiarly favourable opportunity for the exhibition of stedfastness and self-sacrifice on the part of staunch Nonconformist electors. Judging from what is occurring at Halifax and elsewhere, as well as at Exeter, the managers of elections seem to labour under the infatuation that their Dissenting allies will, after a generation of warfare, allow the Church-rate and cognate questions quietly to drop out of the Liberal programme, to suit the crochets of particular candidates. It is well they should be disabused before a General Election is upon us. And nothing is better adapted to satisfy them on that point than the consistent and dignified course taken by the Exeter Nonconformists. That city is not the only constituency where a few determined and consistent Liberals can turn the scale. The Whig leaders ought to know, if they do not, that by forcing upon the Liberal party men with the ecclesiastical views of Mr. Coleridge and Mr. Ackroyd, *they* are precipitating the disruption of that party, and that there is a sufficient minority in every constituency to resent this gratuitous betrayal of the cause of religious equality. Nonconformists cannot and will not help to return men who, on such questions, must vote against their party in order to save their principles; or, as Sir Stafford Northcote put it at Exeter, maintain and defend the Established Church by swelling the ranks of the Conservatives. It is an insult to them that such candidates should be proposed, and that they should be asked to follow in the wake of a party which seems ready to expunge from its programme the principles they most cherish.

The question raised by the Exeter election is neither abstract nor recondite, but one of pressing practical and parliamentary importance. The Tories do not evade it, nor conceal its importance In this matter there is no division amongst *them*. One and all they have agreed to rally round the "No-surrender" flag. "There is one question," said Sir Stafford Northcote at this election, "which predominates over all the rest, and it is the question of the maintenance of the connection which exists between Church and State"; and that is to be preserved in principle and in practice "by the organised action of the Conservative party." And not alone by that agency. The right hon. baronet made it plain that they hoped for success by the co-operation of *soi-disant* Liberals in resisting the abolition of Church-rates, the opening of the Universities, endowed schools and parish churchyards, and in maintaining intact the Irish Church. Are the Liberals of the United Kingdom prepared to follow the example of the majority of the Exeter Liberals by playing into the hands of the stedfast foes of religious equality? If they are, we would candidly warn them that they must be prepared for the same result as we have witnessed in that city. Let religious freedom be dropped in the presence of its organised opponents, and its earnest supporters flung aside, and the result may be safely predicted. The Liberal party will be overthrown, if not shattered. Instead of denouncing the small band of Nonconformists at Exeter who courageously refused to betray their principles, the Liberal leaders ought rather to thank and honour the men who have given timely warning of the consequences which may follow any attempt to narrow the basis of Liberalism, and openly to break with allies who have hitherto fought stoutly by their side.

COOKING DEPOTS.

A short time before the close of the Session, Lord Brougham, *apropos* of the Refreshment Houses Bill, startled his brother peers with an invitation to go and dine for fourpence at the New Cut, Lambeth, where he himself had enjoyed an excellent dinner. How many peers followed his Lordship's advice is not recorded; but his eccentric speech has no doubt been an excellent advertisement for the Surrey Cooking Depôt. We have taken occasion to verify his Lordship's statement. Lord Brougham was strictly correct in stating that at this dining place in the New Cut a plate of first quality meat and potatoes may be obtained for fourpence, and other adjuncts to a meal at a proportionately cheap rate, served up in a way to please the most fastidious taste.

"Good wine needs no bush." The fame of the Surrey Cooking Depôt extends far and wide. It daily supplies from 2,000 to 3,000 rations to appreciating working men; and its business has already far outgrown the capacity of the establishment. Any day hundreds of working men may be seen in its homely rooms, enjoying with evident relish the wholesome fare placed before them—roast beef, mutton, veal, soup, pie, pudding, &c., according to their liking, and wondering, no doubt, that they should so long have remained satisfied with the high-priced but unwholesome and badly-served food doled out to them at the public-house, and washed down with adulterated beer.

The Surrey Cooking Depôt, though started in the interests of philanthropy, is in no sense a charitable institution. With all its liberality to the working men who crowd it, it has proved as successful a commercial speculation as the thirteen large establishments in Glasgow, where no less than 311,500 rations are consumed monthly. For the six months ending last March, the depôt in the New Cut—the first of the kind in London—yielded twenty per cent. net profit. Encouraged by their success, the managers intend forthwith to enlarge the present premises, and make arrangements for the immediate establishment of branch houses in other parts of London. Fully to carry out the scheme, a Dining Hall Company has been formed, with a capital of 50,000*l.*, in 25,000 shares of 2*l.* each, under the sanction of Lord Brougham, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and other well-known philanthropists. Judging from the admirable manner in which the Lambeth Depôt is managed, the directors of the new company are justified in regarding the proposal "as a most sound and legitimate commercial investment"; and we believe that the response which has been made to their appeal exhibits a like confidence on the part of the public.

But our object is not to puff any particular enterprise, however laudable, but to point attention to the satisfactory results which are likely to flow from the extension and success of such movements. This dinner-reform scheme is a necessary corollary of the various agencies which are working towards the elevation of our industrial classes—one, and not the least, of the many effective weapons by which the public-house monopoly may be successfully assailed. Cooking depôts, like working men's clubs, are adapted to wean working men from the alehouse. The public-house is a spider's web cleverly contrived to entangle the millions in its meshes. It provides them with food, such as it is, with light, with warmth, and with social relaxation. But all these are only means, not ends. It is the drink that pays; and to induce workmen to pour liquor down their throats is the cardinal object of the public-house. Hence those deplorable drinking *habits* which are the greatest bane of our industrial classes, and so troublesome to uproot. How difficult it is to assail them directly—how hopeless are Maine Liquor Laws and all such legislative expedients—experience has abundantly shown. If the public-house cannot be stormed, may not its influence be sapped? This is the problem which co-operative stores, savings-banks, and working men's clubs are silently working out.

The dining-hall will powerfully assist these valuable agencies. It places food in its rightful position of supremacy—drink in a subordinate place. It is adapted to satisfy and gratify the natural appetite without ministering to unnatural tastes—to nourish the physical frame without exciting depraved desires. The battle against the deeply-rooted drinking habits of the working classes must be necessarily arduous and protracted. Social revolutions are always slow in action. But with clubs to afford our artisans

rational recreation and companionship, savings-banks to teach them prudence, and cooking depôts to supply them with the best of food at the cheapest rate, the fascinations and temptations of the beerhouse will be greatly diminished—its despotic claims set aside. The fly will be in less danger of the spider's web, because it will avoid the trap set for it.

When working men find they can breakfast and dine better, and save money at the same time, it will be strange if they do not in the long run appreciate the advantage. That they already do so, the signal success of the cooking depôts in Glasgow and Lambeth demonstrates. The effect of all such social reforms is, happily, unlimited. The wholesome change brought about by the dining-hall must sooner or later reach the home of the working-man. The housewife cannot pretend to rival the joint-stock company in the cheapness and excellence of her culinary arrangements, but she may buy her rations at the cooking-depôt, and learn to appreciate what is good and wholesome without being costly. The dining-hall may thus become the adjunct instead of the rival of the domestic hearth. And just as the erection of model lodging-houses is gradually promoting the construction of a better description of working men's dwellings in general, cooking-depôts will bring about culinary reform, habits of domestic economy, and a decline in gross indulgences.

Temperance reformers may ere long come to acknowledge that there is more chance of permanently subduing, if not extinguishing, the national vice of Great Britain by co-operative movements and natural social agencies, than by the violent intervention of the Legislature. In their teaching mission we wish them God speed. They are there in a safe and right position. But however strong their faith in their favourite panacea for the complex ills which afflict their countrymen, they will, we are confident, cordially co-operate in promoting any and all social reforms which, by setting up superior counter-attractions, tend to diminish the attractions of the public-house.

SORROW.

The man or woman who has not felt sorrow, has not yet lived a human life. But is such a person to be found? We have known some who have seemed to be incapable of sorrow—hard, cold, money-getting creatures who live only to illustrate the first three rules of arithmetic, and die simply to "add" one to death's triumphs, and "take" one from life's failures. Others, also, there are. There is the man of close and reserved habit, who keeps his heart locked up and out of sight so long, that not only his friends—if he have any—but he himself by-and-bye forgets that he has one. There is the austerely righteous man, who, in cultivating for its own sake outward conduct, has utterly neglected inward feeling. There is the man who is employed in some occupation—not, perhaps, money-getting—but work, innocent in itself, but vicious as grosser vices if it become a passion. He has heard, "What thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might," and while he has heard the "letter" has "killed" them. He has forgotten that loving is doing, and that heart work is better even than the work of the hands. And so the hands have plied, and the fruit of their labour has grown under them even to admiration, and all the while the heart has little by little been diminishing—little by little, until at last the Searcher *after* hearts is the only one who could find it. The man of that lust which "hardens a' within," and the woman living a frivolous and purposeless existence—they, too, seem to be annealed against the experience and the influence of sorrow.

But it would be wrong to conclude thus, for the heart never dies, and there is always power somewhere to increase its life and soften its nature. And as it becomes strengthened and softened it becomes more and more susceptible to pain and sorrow. But how did it originally become weak and hard? Before it became so did it experience no sorrow? We all know the answer to the first question. A man can harden his heart as quickly as he likes. Every act of sin is like the blow of a Nasmyth hammer upon it; every uncharitable thought is another blow; every unkindness is another; every refusal or wilful neglect to assist those who need our assistance is another; and so on. In course of time small taps of the latter kind will harden quite as effectually as big blows of the former. Probably, we have our hearts more in our own power than we have any other portion of our nature. We can make them tender as a mother's or obdurate as a devil's, just as we may choose to exercise them. But before this hardening has come, depend upon it, sorrow of some kind has come. First sins, first losses, first unkindnesses, we have all known these, and with them we have known some degree of sorrow. There is not, we believe, a conscious thing in human shape that has ever breathed on earth, who is not kin to us all in the suffering of the soul.

But there are sorrows that seem not to have been such when a great sorrow has come. Let husband, wife, child, or parent be lost, and the loser will say that he knew not sorrow until then. All its language was before but a faint and distant echo—a mere shadow of words. Words? How hard and small they seem when they are used in the vain endeavour to convey to another some understanding of the pain of the heart! "Broken?" What is the word when the heart is felt to be breaking? You may tell some one who has not felt your sorrow to look on a living body, bruised and torn, and lacerated and quivering, and to transfer the image to the soul; you may ask him to listen to the description of a man parched with a thirst that cannot be slackened, and say that such a thirst you feel for the love that you have lost; you may tell him to read of the sufferings of a man perishing from hunger, and say that such a hunger you feel for the sight of the once familiar form and face; you may say to him that the earth has become a desert of iron to you, and that you are so desolate that tongue cannot tell the desolation: but though he may weep with you, your words will have conveyed but little meaning to his ears. It is then, perhaps, for the first time felt that all suffering must be borne alone.

This suffering alone is never, perhaps, realised until the greatest that the heart can bear and yet live is experienced. And what then? It is wonderful what a thousand even human ways are given either to strengthen or to draw off the abundance of sorrow, so that it shall never or seldom entirely overflow and kill. The haughty man finds all at once, and for the time, an altered nature given to him, so that he can freely open his heart and let others see what is within. Tears come to eyes that have been dry for many years; work grows under the hands; and by-and-bye the old river of love will spread itself abroad like a lake, and refresh many others than those of one's own household. This is one of the most beautiful effects of real sorrow—sorrow, that is to say, which is not merely selfish. The love which is in the human heart is not lost to the world, but it becomes more widely diffused. This is, too, an instinct of healing, for nothing heals sorrow so well or so perfectly as love for others, and especially that love which seeks out their sorrows and endeavours to heal them. When this is seen one may be sure that trouble is having its right effect. When it is felt that the heart of your friend is warmer, and that his affections come out more spontaneously towards you and others than they did, it may be taken for certain that his nature has been enlarged, and that his grief, instead of drying up his love, has only, as it ought, increased its capacity and power.

The truths that are seen in sorrow have often been written about. They belong to a new world of which every new mourner is a discoverer. Well says Dean Alford—

> Thou can'st not tell
> How rich a dowry sorrow gives the soul,
> How firm a faith and eagle-sight of God.

The most mournful thing is that these truths so often become dim as the sorrow wanes. The sun rises upon us again, and we forget the clouded and silent night. The storm passes, and our vows pass away with it. But it is one of the characteristics of sorrow to leave as slowly. "Pleasures," says an old divine, "come like oxen, slow and heavily, and go away like post-horses upon the spur. But that which the French proverb hath of sickness is true of all evils, that they come on horseback and go away on foot." So tarry the truths which they bring, and in their long tarrying merely they cannot but have made both earth and heaven to be better understood for ever.

The ability to deal with the sorrow of others is one of the most precious of gifts. We do not think it to be so rare as many are apt to suppose, but it is nearly always possessed unconsciously. We have known, for instance, persons regret that they had not this power; and we have also known those very persons almost to heal by their mere presence and manner. The only condition required for the exercise of this power is sympathy, and this needs no art to express itself. Where sympathy is present, it will make itself felt; and where it is felt, it will exercise a healing virtue. To talk to a person about his sorrow without it is an exquisite cruelty. It is like touching a raw wound with a horny hand. If sympathy be wanting, all the words in the world will be felt to be a mockery, and no assumption of it ever deceives. There are times in sorrow when there is a craving for human sympathy. The heart then puts out its tendrils, and will cling to anything that will give it support. The suffering, while they are suffering, are weak. At such a time, if there be any compassion in you, O reader, go and bear thy brother's burden! Every man who has a human heart is able to do this. God has given the gift to all, but some have lost it, and some are unconscious of its possession.

Sorrow, like all the other passions, comes at some time or other in most of our lives to see whether she can reign over us. We are tried by each passion until we are either tried and satisfactorily "proved," or until it is not needful for all to show their strength because we have already been conquered by one, and are more or less under its dominion. The conquering of sorrow has often been written and talked about very foolishly. Some people, who have never really felt it, think it can be run away from; and so, in a certain sense, it can be. A coward can run away in the day of battle; but because he thereby escapes unwounded, he does not prove that he has conquered. Other people think they have conquered it when they have merely crushed it down by the iron hoof of a stubborn and irritated will. Really to conquer others is to make them willing to serve us. And so the conquest of sorrow is achieved. And when, in time—for this warfare is not ended by a battle, but in many a campaign—the silent and shrouded queen is made willing to serve instead of to reign, she first discloses her royal beauty—a beauty so loving, calm, and majestic, that those who then see it, say, "Thanks be to God, for this priceless gift and sight."

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The Australasian has brought advices from New York to July 27.

As we anticipated last week, the report of the fall of Atlanta proved unfounded or premature. The battle before that city, brought on by the Confederates on the 21st inst., continued throughout the 22nd with great severity. The Federals admit the loss of 2,500 men, among whom is Gen. M'Pherson killed. They estimate the Confederate loss at 7,000. In both cases, Hood was the attacking party, having sallied out of his entrenchments for the purpose. That general is described as "a young and fiery officer, who has commanded a division well, and is the idol of that party in the South who are always yelling for an 'offensive policy,' want to throw the 'old fogies' like Lee and Davis overboard, and believe that under a dashing leader they could overrun the North in a few weeks, and dictate peace in Boston." On the 23rd the fighting was suspended. The wounded on both sides were removed, and the dead was buried under truce; the Federals burying 1,000 of the fallen Confederates within their lines. While the work of burying the dead and removing the wounded was going on, Sherman's heavy artillery was playing upon the city. At the same time large fires were observed in different parts of Atlanta, supposed to be caused by the destruction of supply depôts and other rebel property. It is said that preparations for the evacuation of the city began before Sherman crossed the Chattahoochie. General Thomas, who has established himself on the north and north-east, and within a mile and a-half of Atlanta, bombarded that city continuously. No news of its positive capture has yet been received. General Hood's whole army was posted in and about the place. General Sherman maintained a position to the left of the city, within a portion of the fortifications. The lines between Atlanta and both Augusta and Montgomery had been cut. The "raid" by which the Montgomery road was cut was the most remarkable of the war, General Rousseau, who commanded it, having started from Nashville, and ridden right down the centre of the State of Alabama, a longer distance in a straight line through the enemy's country than that traversed by Grierson in his famous ride through Mississippi.

The *Times* New York correspondent reports that Longstreet's corps, 20,000 strong, had been sent from Richmond to the aid of Hood, but it would be difficult for them to reach Atlanta, as Decatur, through which the railroad passed, was in the possession of the Federals. There was no further fighting up to July 25th.

It was reported that Sherman, after the fall of Atlanta, would accumulate supplies in the city, secure the line of communication with Chattanooga, and detach a large portion of his force, say 50,000 men, against Richmond, *viâ* Lynchburg, along the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad.

Smith's expedition had returned to Memphis for supplies, after defeating Forrest in five engagements.

The situation before Petersburg was unchanged. On the morning of the 20th the Federal batteries opened on the city, and reduced the depot of the Weldon Railroad to ruins. General W. F. (Baldy) Smith had been relieved of the command of the 18th corps, and succeeded by General Ord. Birney had been appointed to the 10th Army Corps. One writer says:—"Grant is mining, and I think waiting for Sherman, but I have the best authority for stating that the feeling of confidence amongst both

officers and men in the army was never so strong as at present."

The report that the Confederates in Northern Virginia had turned on their pursuers turns out to be correct. General Averill pursued General Early to a mountain near Winchester, where Early made a stand, and, having been reinforced, attacked General Averill, who, after severe fighting on the 23rd and 24th, was compelled to fall back to Harper's Ferry, carrying with him the forces at Hawker's Hill, and causing also the evacuation of Martinsburg. The Confederates pursued him, and had again occupied Martinsburg, where they cut the telegraphic wires, and commenced again the destruction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway. There were various reports of the losses of the Federals in these movements, but they were entirely indefinite and unreliable. The object of the Confederates in making this new offensive movement was not yet apparent; but they probably hoped to draw Grant from Petersburg. Railroad and telegraphic communication had been suspended between Harper's Ferry on the east and Cumberland on the west.

General Slocum's expedition had been reinforced, and was about to march again for the interior of Mississippi. It is said that a concentration of Federal troops is being effected in Mississippi, for a descent upon Mobile, Alabama.

Confederate accounts claim that a large Federal force under General Elliot was attacked near Port Hudson, on the 5th, and routed with great slaughter, the roads for miles being strewn with dead negroes, horses and arms.

Louisiana advices state that General Richard Taylor had gone to assume command of the corps of the late General Polk in Johnston's army, and that General Buckner had been assigned to Taylor's command.

It is said that the Federals were about to evacuate Brownsville, Texas.

Charleston advices to the 16th, report a vigorous bombardment of Fort Sumter in progress, and that thirty or forty shells were daily thrown into the city.

There is no further news of the North-Western Confederacy. The story turns out to have been a ridiculous exaggeration.

Mr. Fessenden has called for subscriptions to a popular loan of 200,000 000 dols. Treasury bonds, bearing interest at 7 3-10 per cent., payable half-yearly in currency. The bonds at maturity are to be payable or convertible into 5.20 per cent.—gold-bearing bonds at the option of the holders.

Gold 256¾.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A GREAT SCANDAL REMOVED.—The Provost-Marshal-General (Mr. Fry), in his instructions and regulations to all concerned in carrying out the measure, expressly declares that "*no premiums whatever for the procuration of recruits will hereafter be paid by the United States.*" This will put a stop to the crimping system, and ruin the trade of the mercenary scoundrels who go to Ireland, ostensibly to procure railway labourers, but in reality to enlist soldiers—for whom they were up to this time paid by the Federal Government at the rate of 20 dols. a head. It will also spoil the business of the enterprising travellers on board of emigrant ships, British or American, who relieve the tedium of the Atlantic passage by inducing their companions to enrol themselves among the brave defenders "of the best Government that ever existed on the face of the earth," and to fight for a cause of which, for the most part, they know nothing, except that it offers high bounties and good pay. Perhaps the Federal Government, which treated the remonstrances of Lord Lyons on this subject with such supercilious disregard, has discovered the inconvenience and impolicy, not to say the danger, of longer persistence in a system that has led to so much cruelty and injustice, and to such well-founded complaint on the part of Great Britain and other foreign Powers.—*New York Correspondent of the Times.*

HOW SHERMAN PROTECTS HIS REAR.—He is now 180 miles from Chattanooga, his base of supplies, and every inch of the road—and he has only one road to depend on—lies through the heart of the enemy's country, and yet his army is just as well supplied as Grant's, and I believe not a day has passed that his skirmishers have not been able to hear the whistle of the engine bringing up the trains in the rear. His mode of protecting the railroad is this. Every mile there is a strong blockhouse, entrenched and garrisoned by 100 picked men, commanded by a picked captain, and both officers and men have been sworn not to surrender. These blockhouses are generally, of course, within signalling distance of each other. In addition to this, there are all along patrols of cavalry, by which the country in every direction is constantly and thoroughly scoured. This, of course, takes 20,000 men from the army, but nothing less will do, and it must be confessed that so far it has proved amply sufficient. There has been only one attempt made on the road, and this was by Wheeler's cavalry, which reached it, and tore up some of the rails, but the damage done was so slight that it was repaired in two hours, and there was no interruption whatever in the running of the trains.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

GRANT'S POSITION AT PETERSBURG.—The New York correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 23rd ult., says:—

I learn, through a friend of General Grant's, who has just been passing some days at head-quarters, and left the army on Friday, that the latter is perfectly satisfied with his position, and perfectly confident that Lee must, sooner or later, at the best, either dislodge him or give Richmond up, even supposing the Federals attempt no forward movement. This, of course, does not preclude the possibility of Grant's doing something more than staying where he is, but whether he will or not, or if he does make any move, what will it be? I doubt if any one knows, and certainly I do not. There is now no doubt that regular siege-works are being pushed against the Confederate position on this side of the river, including mining on a very extensive scale. The only thing of late which has led me to fear that the situation of Petersburg was not all that Grant himself could desire was, that he has within the last fortnight contracted his lines to such a degree as to give up the Weldon railroad, on which the enemy is now running trains. But I am convinced from what I have since heard that this has been due to the expectation of an attack in force by Lee. There have been rumours afloat for some days that something of the kind was pending, and there is no doubt that they were confidently believed at the Federal head-quarters, and every necessary preparation made in consequence. Very extravagant notions have prevailed in Richmond for some time as to the extent of Grant's losses, and it was fully expected that the late demonstration against Washington would work on Mr. Lincoln's fears sufficiently to cause the withdrawal of a very large portion of the force before Petersburg. It is very likely that these calculations led to the belief that Grant's position could be carried by a vigorous assault, and his whole army driven down on the James River. The facts are, I think, that Grant has had about 50,000 men, rather less than more, put *hors de combat* since he left the Rapidan. His reinforcements have, however, more than filled the gap, and if we count on the 19th corps, which has just arrived from New Orleans, I think there is very little doubt that he is stronger than he has ever been. The only portion of his force which was detached for the protection of Washington was the 6th corps, one of the best in the army certainly, but so reduced by the very prominent and active part it has taken in all the fighting since the campaign opened, that its absence is no great numerical loss. The 19th corps is also at Washington, having reached Fort Monroe just as Early crossed the Potomac, and it was consequently sent on to the capital, without disembarking. This corps is about 25,000 strong, and has been ordered on from New Orleans by General Grant for the purpose of taking part in the operations in Virginia, as all active movements along the Gulf during the next two months are out of the question, owing to the heat. It is very generally believed here, by those whose opinions are of some value, that Grant is in reality lying on his oars, waiting for the close of Sherman's great game with Johnston, which is apparently now near at hand.

THE RAILROADS SOUTH OF RICHMOND.—Two railroads feed Richmond from the south—one, the line from Wilmington to Weldon, Petersburg and Richmond; the other, the railroad which comes up from Greensborough through the centre of North Carolina, enters Virginia at Danville, and, running through the heart of the State, reaches Richmond from the south-west. It may be at once conceded that there is little likelihood that the first, the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, can be kept open. Grant's army lies so closely in its proximity, and his cavalry can strike it in so many points along the sixty miles which intervene between Weldon and Petersburg, as to negative its utility. It would be a waste of power for General Lee to try and keep it in operation. Upon the other railroad, or rather upon the ninety miles of it between Richmond and the Staunton river, General Lee's defensive ingenuity will be exhausted. This railroad is, in its nearest point, distant about twenty-five miles from Grant's extreme left, and trends away from him into the interior of Virginia, so that an interval of ninety miles divides him from the bridge over the Staunton river. Can this railroad be kept substantially in operation? It has already been destroyed at intervals for thirty-five miles northwards from the Staunton river by a mingled body of Federal cavalry and infantry, but, inasmuch as no important bridge has been destroyed, the damage can be repaired in fourteen days. I will at once express my conviction that Grant is not strong enough either in cavalry or infantry to do more than dash at this railroad and inflict from time to time light damage upon it. Richmond can never be starved out, until these two railroads from the South, as well as the James River Canal and the railroads from the North, can be utterly annihilated, and can be kept annihilated. As an illustration how quickly damage, if lightly inflicted, is repaired, I may mention that the Virginia Central Railroad, which was destroyed for many miles by Sheridan upon the 11th of June, has for some days past been open and running to Charlottesville, whence it continues indirectly to Lynchburg. This line alone would, in addition to the James River Canal, abundantly victual Richmond, although every other line were cut. In short, to talk of Richmond being besieged because Grant's army environs Petersburg, twenty-two miles away, is about as reasonable as to pretend that London was on short rations when Napoleon's army menaced England from Boulogne in 1804.—*Times Correspondent.*

DEATH OF GENERAL M'PHERSON.—He was comparatively a young man, being only in his thirty-sixth year, and was by many regarded as the ablest officer in the army. He was Grant's right-hand man during the whole of the arduous operations against Vicksburg, and Grant confessed that a large measure of their success was due to his skill and audacity. By Sherman he was equally loved and trusted. He commanded a wing of the army, and was charged with the conduct of every one of the flanking movements by which Johnston was dislodged from his famous stronghold. How ably he did his work the result attests. M'Pherson, like Grant, belonged to a Scotch family, settled in the west one or two generations ago. . . . When the war broke out his rise was, of course, rapid; he was a man of extraordinary brilliancy of conception and fertility of resource on the field of battle, but his friends say that he probably never displayed the great range of his capacity, both as a soldier and a man of science, more strikingly than when charged with the task of keeping open the Louisville and Nashville Railroad in 1862, during Grant's operations at Pittsburg Landing. Morgan was raiding on the road incessantly, and Morgan was then in his glory: the bridges were very numerous and all of wood; the length of the line was 200 miles, and the country through which it passed swarmed with guerillas; and yet during the whole period that M'Pherson had charge of it no train ever failed to pass, such was the extraordinary perfection of the organisation in which he had placed both the troops and the "construction parties."—*Daily News Correspondent.*

FRANCE.

IMPORTANT POLITICAL TRIAL.

The trial of MM. Garnier-Pagès, Carnot, Dréo, and others, thirteen in all, for illegally convening an electoral meeting of more than twenty persons, began on Friday in the sixth chamber of Correctional Police. M. Dobignie was the presiding judge. The court was as full as it could hold, but being no bigger than a moderate-sized dining-room, there was scarcely any room for the public. All the traversers appeared at the bar. Their names are MM. Garnier-Pagès, deputy; Carnot, deputy; Dréo, advocat; Hérold, advocate of the Council of State and the Court of Cassation; Clamergan, advocate; Floquet, advocate; Ferry, advocate; Durier, advocate; Corbon, ex-representative of the people; Jozon, advocate; Hérisson, advocate; Melsheim, *avoué* at Schelestadt; and Bory, advocate at Marseilles. There was a formidable array of counsel engaged for the accused.

The first witness called was M Brasseur, a member of the Council-General of the Haut Rhin, who said, in a few words, that he lived at Schelestadt, and had been a member of an electoral committee to which M. Melsheim, one of the traversers, also belonged; but that this committee had neither president nor secretary, and did not meet at fixed periods. On cross-examination he admitted that the Government candidate had an electoral committee of upwards of 100 persons, which met in a brewery, and was presided over either by the mayor or his deputy. Two other witnesses from the same locality deposed to much the same effect, one of them stating that the Opposition committees consisted of only fourteen persons. This was all the evidence for the prosecution; when it was over the President proceeded to interogate the traversers.

M. Garnier-Pagès, before answering any question, read a protest which he and M. Carnot had lodged with the *juge d'instruction* on behalf of the dignity of the Corps Législatif. He complained that the rights of the representatives of the nation had been violated by breaking their locks, seizing their papers, and finding out, against the principle of the ballot, the names of the electors who had voted for him and M. Carnot. He then admitted he had at one time constituted a committee of twenty-five persons, among whom were several young advocates (authors of the "Electoral Manual"), with a view to give legal advice to electors, and also to recommend candidates; but that in consequence of a note in the *Moniteur* this first committee was dissolved; and the second committee, which had no connection whatever with it, never consisted of more than fourteen members. In the course of his examination M. Garnier-Pagès became very animated, and said that without electoral committees universal suffrage was a lie and a delusion; and that, in point of fact, the public prosecutor ought to be at the bar to take his trial instead of himself and friends. The President said, "Oh, I am astonished to hear such language!" and M. Malher, the Imperial advocate, said it was an "insult."

M. Carnot gave the same explanations touching the absence of all connection between the committees. He had only occupied himself with the composition of the consulting committee of fifteen. He also protested against the seizure of private papers at his house. He had been a member of many societies and committees, beginning with the one called "Aidetoi, le Ciel t'aidera," and yet under no Government, not even under the Restoration, had such an outrage ever been attempted.

M. Berryer, counsel for M. Ferry, expressed his astonishment that in an indictment for belonging to an unauthorised association of twenty persons there were only thirteen persons included.

M. Jules Favre, for M. Garnier Pagès, demanded that the points on which the indictment was framed should be set forth distinctly. It said nothing of them, and they were quite in the dark. In fact, they did not know at that moment what they were accused of.

M. Berryer repeated that he did not understand what he was called upon to do. He admitted that he himself had corresponded with departmental committees, excepting perhaps that of Marseilles, with whom he differed in opinion when they praised him too much. Perhaps he was one of the twenty-one required to complete the thirteen. These words excited general laughter. The President frowned, and threatened to clear the court if he heard another laugh.

On Saturday M. Jules Favre defended M. Garnier-Pagès in an eloquent speech:—

He said that he experienced profound sorrow in replying to the charge made yesterday by the Crown prosecutor. When he considered the efforts and sacrifices made within the last sixty years, the tears, the bloodshed, he asked himself whether the theory of progress is not a cruel delusion, and whether we are not condemned to turn for ever within the same circle of

passions and misfortunes. He should experience the same feeling of sorrow were he the friend of the Government. He would ask what it could gain by such a contest? It is invested with immense force; it meets no resistance; it disposes of public opinion, and, by means of an ingenious system it hold in its hands the property and liberty of all. It is the only one who can say, I have a right to speak. When an election is to take place it has a legion of functionaries obedient to its will. It chooses its candidates and facilitates their success by all the means it alone has at its disposal. Such is its power, and during a period of public tranquillity it comes to complain of the resistance of its adversaries and to demand against them the application of a law which has existed for thirty years, and which has never had the meaning attributed to it which it has at present. M. Jules Favre then read a passage from the works of Napoleon III., a passage in which, comparing the English laws with the French, he remarked that in England authority is never violent, and for that reason domiciliary visits and the violation of correspondence are not known in that country. He could not place his cause under better patronage than that of Prince Louis Bonaparte, who wrote those generous words. It did not become him to inquire how such generous maxims had been forgotten. He could not believe that it was to arrive at a wretched trial for an illegal association that this prosecution was commenced. Quite a different result was expected. He would not describe all the efforts made to arrive at the figure 20, which did not prevent the prosecutor stopping at number 13, which is at the same time the satire and the condemnation of his impotent accusation. M. Jules Favre next examined the legislation existing under preceding Governments with regard to associations. M. Barthe declared that the law was made against associations and not against accidental and temporary meetings. If the object of the meeting was to exercise a constitutional right, to suppress it would be to violate the law itself. In order to carry out the law of 1834 the prosecutor should prove that the association consisted of twenty-one persons, and he should produce the twenty-one before the Court. M. Guizot, being called upon by a member of the Opposition, declared not only that he had formed part of an association which had a complete organisation, a treasury and subscribers, but that he gloried in the object of the association. He said, moreover, that the Société Aide-toi was perfectly consistent with the law of 1834, which he proposed.

M. Jules Favre read an account of an electoral banquet, written by M. de Lamartine, at the head of which were MM. Abbatucci, Cambacères, and even M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the present Minister of Foreign Affairs. In conclusion, he said he felt confident, when he saw around him the defenders of liberty, when he saw Berryer, who is not only the prince of orators, but who has been always the passionate lover of liberty. The sitting was then suspended, and at the return of the judge he called on M. Marie, who replied that M. Berryer was about to make a communication to the Court. M. Berryer announced that himself and colleagues declined to add anything to the eloquent defence of M. Jules Favre. The Court then retired to consider their judgment.

The Chamber sentenced the accused, after five hours' deliberation, to a fine of 500f. each, with costs.

The accused are resolved to appeal to the Cour Impériale, and, if need be, to the Court of Cassation, against that sentence.

The Emperor of the French has returned to St. Cloud. It is stated that the waters of Vichy have not had so favourable an effect upon his health this time as was expected. The visit of the King of Spain to the French Court is to take place a few days sooner than was originally anticipated.

Paris is preparing for the *fêtes* of the 15th, which are expected to be surpassingly good.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

The preliminaries of peace between the German Powers and Denmark have now been published. It appears that the rectification of the Jutland frontier takes more the form of an exchange of territory, so as to give a better division line, than of any arrangement for the exclusive advantage of Germany. In return for the portions of Jutland ceded by the Danish Government, the German Powers allow an equivalent portion of Schleswig to be incorporated with Denmark. The German Powers take with the Duchies all debts specially contracted for their benefit, and a rateable proportion of debts contracted for the common benefit of Denmark and the Duchies. From this arrangement is excluded the loan of 1863, which was in fact a loan raised for the purposes of the present war. The armistice, which is based on the principle of each party keeping what it now possesses, is to last till the 15th of September, and six weeks' notice must be given of the resumption of hostilities. The army of occupation in Jutland is to be reduced to the smallest force consistent with military prudence, and Jutland is to find it in provisions. The prisoners of war are to be released on parole.

On Saturday, the King of Denmark opened the Rigsdag and made a speech. His Majesty said that, having been abandoned by all Europe, he was obliged to seek for peace with an overpowering foe. It was hard to make the sacrifices exacted from him, but harder still to carry on the war. Union between King and people might secure a happier future. Public feeling in Denmark is in a very depressed state. The hardness of the terms of peace appears to have taken everybody by surprise, and the opportunity thrown away at London is evidently remembered with regret.

A Prussian paper ominously hints at new arrangements respecting Holstein, viz., a demand by Prussia and Austria for the evacuation of the Duchy by Federal troops.

The clergy and gentry of the district of Kiel held a meeting in that town on Monday, at which twenty-three persons only were present. The draft of a petition to the Schleswig-Holstein Commissioners was submitted for signature to the meeting. The petition explained the necessity of and demanded a common Government for Schleswig-Holstein, under the protection of Prussia, and dwelt upon the importance of the closest union with that Power. After an animated discussion five of the assembly refused to sign the petition.

POLAND.

The latest telegram from Warsaw brings intelligence of the execution of the chiefs of the Polish National Government, five in number. As an act of clemency, some of the officials of the National Government, who had been sentenced to death, have been ordered to hard labour, and others to imprisonment in a Siberian fortress. These commuted sentences are, we suppose, to be for life, or during the pleasure of the Czar.

TUNIS.

Things are not very quiet at Tunis yet. Some of the tribes are very dissatisfied with the terms agreed upon between the Bey and their chiefs, and still uphold the standard of revolt. An Arab insurrection has also broken out near Bagdad. The Turkish troops have been thrice defeated in encounters with the insurgents. The Persian Gulf cable has been broken.

NEW ZEALAND.

The latest advices from New Zealand report no further military operations. The troops had gone into winter quarters.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Eight million pounds of leaf tobacco have been destroyed by fire at Manilla.

The King of Ava has granted a perpetual concession for railways, telegraphs, and collieries in Burmah.

The heat has been intense on the Mediterranean. The thermometer has stood at 96 in the shade at Malta.

An Arab insurrection has broken out near Bagdad. The Turkish troops have been defeated in three engagements with the insurgents, and have lost three guns.

A Doubtful Compliment.—A Vienna journalist, and an ardent advocate of a united Germany, was thus congratulated the other day:—"You have long demanded that Germany should be ruled from Vienna. Well, since the arrival of M. de Bismark your wishes have been realised."

The Mont Cenis Tunnel.—The great work of boring a tunnel through Mont Cenis has been recently inspected by a commission specially charged with the duty, accompanied by several French engineers; and an interesting report has been made on the subject. Progress during the last twelve months has been very slow to our English ideas, and it is calculated that, with all the improved means at command, ten years more of continuous labour is requisite before the communications by this route are so far advanced as to unite the territories of France and Italy.

Indian Strategy.—One of the 14th New York Artillery, a Seneca Indian, undertook on a wager to bring in alive a rebel sharpshooter, who was perched in a tree in front of our line, considerably in advance of his own. Procuring a quantity of pine boughs, he enveloped himself with them from head to foot, attaching them securely to a branch, which he lashed lengthwise of his body. When completed he was indistinguishable to a casual observer from the surrounding foliage, and resembled a tree as closely as it was possible for his really artistic efforts to render him. Thus prepared, and with musket in hand, concealed likewise, he stole by almost imperceptible movements to beneath the tree where the sharpshooter was lodged. Here he patiently waited until his prey had emptied his piece at one of our men, when he suddenly brought his musket to bear upon the "reb," giving him no time to reload. The sharpshooter was taken at a disadvantage. To the demand to come down he readily assented, when the Indian triumphantly marched him a prisoner into camp and won his wager.—*American Paper.*

The Marriage of Dhuleep Singh.—The marriage of the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh took place at the British Consulate, Alexandria, on the 7th June. The young lady who has now become the Maharanee is the daughter of a European merchant here. Her mother is an Abyssinian. She is between fifteen and sixteen years of age, of a slight but graceful figure, interesting rather than handsome, not tall, and in complexion lighter than her husband. She is a Christian, and was educated in the American Presbyterian Mission School at Cairo; and it was during a chance visit there that the Prince first saw his future bride, who was engaged as instructress in the school. Dhuleep Singh wore at the wedding European costume, excepting a red tarboosh. The bride's dress was also European. The formula was pronounced by the Prince in English: the bride, in a low but musical voice, read it in Arabic (that being the only language with which she is acquainted), and thus "Bamba Muller" became the "Maharanee." She showed much self-possession through it all. A religious ceremony was performed by one of the American ministers at the house of the bride's father, and the newly-married pair retired to the Prince's house at Ramleh, a few miles from Alexandria. They will leave soon for England.—*Bombay Times of India.*

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

EXETER.

The nomination of candidates to represent the city of Exeter took place on Wednesday last, when Lord Courtenay (Conservative) was proposed by Mr. Sanders, and seconded by Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P. The right hon. baronet made a slashing speech on behalf of his lordship. It was mainly devoted to a criticism of Mr. Coleridge's former addresses, and accused the Liberal party of having a design against the National Church, which it was the special policy of the Conservatives to uphold. The following is a sample:—

I was astonished to see that Mr. Coleridge in his speech the other night came forward and said, "Separate the Church and State; who is it that talks of such a separation?" Who is it that talks of the separation of Church and State? Is that the extent of my honourable friend's political education? Does he not know the state of affairs in Parliament and the state of affairs amongst the leaders of the Nonconformist body? (Hear, hear.) Does he really know so little of what those gentlemen say at Westminster Hall, and is he so ignorant of the discussions that have taken place, that he asks, "Who is it that talks about separating the Church and State?" I will tell him who it is. It is the party amongst whom, if he was returned to Parliament, he was going to sit—("Hear, hear," and "No, no")—it is the men whom he will find on his right hand and on his left hand—(great uproar, and cries of "No" and "Yes")—it is the party which is one day bringing forward an attack upon Church-rates, another day upon the endowments of your schools, another day upon your Universities, another day upon the Church of Ireland, and another day upon your subscriptions and your formularies, always pressing forward—("Hear, hear," from the Liberals). One day on your burials, one day for the use of your churches—(cries of "No, no")—pressing forward, aiming at the same point—pressing to a definite end which they have clearly in view—(Hear, hear, from the Liberals)—but ready to go forward by instalments as best they may—(Hear, hear, from the Liberals)—to take a little if they could not get much—and if they could get that little by the help of so-called good Churchmen they take it all the more readily—(A Voice: "Fools, if they didn't"). As long as Lord Palmerston is at the head of affairs they may be kept quiet, but the moment he is gone the support of the Liberal party will be with those men who sit below the gangway—the Fosters, the Dillwyns, and the Trelawnys—who are bringing forward these motions day after day—(Hear, hear, and applause)—and I ask you how are these men to be met? Are they to be met by sending amongst them one who may hope to persuade them to mitigate their attacks?—(laughter)—or by a regularly organised opposition watching and guarding against these attacks, and not prepared to attempt as much as he could to please his party to the sacrifice of the principles which he professes—(Cheers and groans). If my honourable friend goes to Parliament as a Churchman, day after day he will be placed under the painful necessity of voting against his party in order to save his principles. (Tremendous uproar.) Then how are these men to be met? It must not be by this or that isolated Churchman on the Liberal side. No! it must be by the organised action of the Conservative party, who have done all in their power to maintain the connection existing between Church and State.

Mr. Coleridge (Liberal) was proposed by Mr. Mulford, and seconded by Mr. Norrington.

Lord Courtenay addressed the assembly amid great uproar and cheering from his friends. He said he was proud to say that he was a Conservative, after the fashion of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, and after the fashion of Sir Stafford Northcote. On matters of foreign policy, and on points connected with the Church, the policy of the Conservative party met with his warmest approbation. (A Voice: "And no progression.") His lordship then proceeded to criticise the policy of the present Government with respect to Denmark.

Mr. Coleridge was enthusiastically cheered on rising, and, in some very pungent remarks, alluded to the county influence which was brought to bear against him. North and South Devon were represented there by the Hon. C. R. Trefusis and by Sir L. Palk and Mr. Kekewich. There also was Sir S. Northcote, who tried to get in for South Devon, but could not, and he could quite understand why the hon. baronet had come in from Pynes to take part in the noble lord's election, seeing that he once sat for Dudley at the nomination of a noble lord, and now sat for Stamford at the nomination of a noble marquis. (Laughter and cheers.) With respect to Church-rates, he said that he could not give up the right the Church of England possessed of enforcing on her members the maintenance of the fabric, and he protested against the interests of the national Church being made a question for party squabbles instead of seeking to make that Church a broad and wide Church. (Cheers.) He ventured to say that the Conservative party would live to rue the day when they handed over the Church to one party, and that the decadent party in the Church. (Cheers.) He confessed his inability to understand the views of Lord Courtenay on the question of Church-rates. As to the ballot he had previously wished it to be tried, because he thought it would do no harm; but this election had convinced him of the great necessity of the ballot. (Cheers.) When he came among them to canvass the city, he had no idea that in 1864 protection would be necessary for the maintenance and delivery of a man's private opinions. (Hear.) He should have thought it impossible, had not evidence come under his own eyes, and therefore he now not only believed that the ballot would be no harm, but it would be a great good. (Cheers.)

The show of hands was about three to one in favour of Mr. Coleridge, and the sheriff declared the show of hands to be in favour of Mr. Coleridge,

when a poll was demanded on behalf of Lord Courtenay.

The polling took place on Thursday, with the following result:—

Lord Courtenay	1,096
Mr. Coleridge	1,070
Majority	—26

It is almost impossible (says the *Daily News*) to describe the excitement which prevailed in this city on Thursday:—

Mr. Coleridge had, by his eloquent speeches and advanced political opinions, kindled a great deal of enthusiasm in the minds of the great mass of the people, and a corresponding amount of indignation was expressed at the candidature of Lord Courtenay, because it was said he was a nominee of the county aristocracy, whose influence was actively used in his lordship's favour. In addition to the latter advantage the Conservatives were united, whilst on the other hand many Liberals holding the views of the Liberation Society would not vote for Mr. Coleridge, because the learned gentleman had refused to pledge himself to an unconditional abolition of Church-rates. The first hour's polling was in favour of Mr. Coleridge, but subsequently Lord Courtenay took the lead, and at a quarter past eleven o'clock he was seventy-eight a-head. After that, however, the majority for the noble lord gradually diminished, until at last it dwindled down to twenty-six votes. We understand that about 130 votes were left unpolled, the majority of whom are said to be Liberals. It will be thus seen that had the Liberals been united they would have had a victory. As it was, the Liberals declared that had it not been for the county influence which was exercised in favour of Lord Courtenay they should have gained the battle. The Liberals, however, regard their defeat as a triumph, inasmuch as the Conservatives boasted of being able to command a majority of from 100 to 200 votes. The contest was a fair test of the relative strength of parties, and the Liberals feel that they have the advantage, which they have determined to make the most of at the next general election.

Previous to and after the declaration of the poll there were great disturbances in the city. Some one, it is said, threw a ginger-beer bottle from the window of Lord Courtenay's committee-room in High-street, which so incensed the people in the streets that they smashed the windows. Mr. Coleridge, who was at a house opposite, appealed to the crowd to desist, which they immediately did. Lord Courtenay, who was a good deal hustled on his way to the Guildhall, and his lip cut by some missile, was obliged to be protected by the police, and on his return from the Guildhall was compelled to go by a back way. The state of the poll (as above) was declared about an hour after the close thereof by the sheriff, Mr. R. T. Head. Lord Courtenay was accompanied by Sir Stafford Northcote, who has been most active on his lordship's behalf, and a number of other persons. Mr. Coleridge was not present, but there was a very large muster of the hon. and learned gentleman's friends.

The *Western Times* of yesterday says that Mr. Coleridge lost his election in consequence of his unsatisfactory views on the deceased-wife's-sister question, and on Church-rates. In reference to the former question, our Exeter contemporary says:—

Mr. Coleridge, as a devoted member of the Church, abets the law as it stands, and maintains it on religious grounds. The law is a priest-made law, borrowed from the Roman Catholic Church, who makes a market of the weakness which the law is intended to prevent by selling licenses to break it. Our late worthy member was opposed to the alteration of the law, on grounds of social polity. He did not trouble himself with the priestly origin of the law, but maintained that on social grounds it should be enforced. High-Church statesmen assert for it a religious sanction, and the opponents of the law considered that this was retrogression, and, we believe, on that ground opposed the Liberal candidate.

With reference to the Church-rate question, it is said:—

The chief opponents, however, were found in a few leading Dissenters, who decided from the first that if Mr. Coleridge would not vote for the abolition of Church-rates they would not vote for him: and here there was something like a duel of "conscience." They declared that they could not conscientiously vote for any one who would maintain the rate: and the hon. and learned gentleman maintained that his conscience would not let him abolish the rate. The arguments for conscience were equally forcible on both sides, and if the conscience of the candidate deserved supreme consideration, the Dissenters demanded the same consideration for their consciences. . . . . Earl Russell, a quarter of a century ago, said that Church-rate might be abolished without the Church missing it, if the State property, which has been assigned for the use of the National Establishment, were better administered. For thirty years Mr. Divett opposed Church-rates on this ground. We think, therefore, that large allowance should be made to the Dissenter who insists that it is a question of principle; that for him to abandon it is to retrograde, and to retreat in the path of progress, which has hitherto seen no vestige of a backward step. This, we believe, is his view of the case. It is entitled to respect, and we hope that he will be respectfully met in stating it. Mr. Coleridge pleads "Conscience" as against the Dissenter's plea. He thinks that the "Church has a right to enforce the rate on her own members," and as a Churchman, therefore, he cannot conscientiously give up the rate. He would relieve the Dissenter, but he will not permit the Dissenter to smuggle the Churchman out of the reach of the impost. He will maintain the impost, as an impost, and compel the reluctant Churchman to pay it, even though it would relieve the Dissenter. But the law is the law of Parliament, not the law of Churchmen. It is not for the Church to give the law in this matter. The question is not a spiritual question, it is not a religious question—it is simply a question whether the Church shall do with so much less money than she receives through the capricious channel of a parochial vote. The Churchmen, in a parish, may get rid of the rate if they are in a majority, or a minority of Churchmen may combine with Dissenters, consenters and assenters, and thus get rid of the rate. If the law were altered so as to compel Churchmen to pay the rate, that would be but a re-linking of the old chain, and the apprehension of which justifies the conscience-plea of the Dissenter.

The *Western Times* proceeds to argue that the position of both Dissenter and Churchman, as members of the Liberal party, is subordinate to the general judgment of the party, and that the Dissenter, as a Liberal, ought to leave the redress of his wrongs to the progress of Liberalism, and by giving to it his support render that progress more rapid, and his redress more certain.

Mr. Coleridge has issued the followin address to the electors:—

I thank you most heartily for the support you have accorded me in the contest just concluded. It was a contest fought under great disadvantages for the Liberal party. You were deprived by death of an old and honoured leader, and you had to fight for a single seat with a candidate new and unknown to you, and whose opinions unfortunately were not acceptable to all the members of the Liberal party. To the absence of these members from the poll, rather than to the strength of our opponents, it is owing that I address you as the defeated and not as the successful candidate. I very much regret that they could not conscientiously support me. I hope that on consideration they may themselves regret it. But I unfeignedly respect and honour the sincerity of their convictions. Such a defeat, however, as I have sustained is, under the circumstances, if not a victory, certainly an honour. It insures success to the Liberal candidate at a general election. And when the general election arises I shall again ask at your hands the honour of representing you in Parliament.

FINSBURY.—On Thursday evening a considerable number of the electors of Finsbury assembled at the Talbot Tavern, Gray's-inn-road, to hear an address from Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens, in reference to his claims to represent the borough in the next Parliament. In reply to questions, Mr. Torrens declared himself in favour of the abolition of capital punishment, even, as an experiment, in cases of murder; of vote by ballot, combined with a large extension of the suffrage; and of the abolition of the rate-paying clauses in the Reform Bill. The candidate delivered a long speech. The following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

This meeting, having heard an exposition from Mr. Torrens of his political opinions and sentiments, considers him to be an eligible candidate for representing the borough of Finsbury in Parliament; and believing that the opinions and sentiments so expressed by Mr. Torrens accord with those of a majority of the inhabitants, earnestly invites a cordial and united co-operation of the electors to secure his return at the next election.

After speeches in support of the resolution by Mr. J. Walker and Mr. G. Taylor, it was carried unanimously, and a committee of electors for the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and St. George the Martyr, was appointed to further the object of the meeting, with power to add to their number.

SUNDERLAND.—Mr. Alderman Candlish announces his intention of contesting the representation of Sunderland at the next election.

EASTERN COUNTIES.—It is not now expected that Mr. J. H. Gurney will resign his seat for Lynn until the dissolution of Parliament; the candidates for the anticipated vacancy have accordingly suspended operations. The Hon. Colonel Howley, who was returned for Harwick in 1861, in opposition to Sir Stuart Donaldson, will not offer himself for re-election for that borough. Mr. Capper, a colonel of volunteers and manager of the Victoria (London) Docks, has been named as a candidate in the Conservative interest. It is stated that Mr. J. W. Perry-Watlington, M.P. for South Essex, has expressed a wish to retire from the representation of that constituency at the next election. Mr. Watlington has represented the division since 1859. In connection with Harwich politics it should have been noted that Mr. M. Wills has for some time been in the field as a Liberal candidate for the borough. The statement that the Hon. H. Walpole intended to contest the representation of East Norfolk in the Conservative interest has received a denial, although it is still stated that the hon. gentleman has privately expressed his willingness to come forward as a candidate if requested to do so.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, 1864.

FIRST M.B. EXAMINATION.

FIRST DIVISION.—Francis Bateman, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Stephen Wootton Bushell, Guy's Hospital; Thomas Cole, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Henry Greenway Howse, Guy's Hospital; James Pearson Irvine, B.A., University College; Frederic Barham Nunneley, University College; Charles William Philpot, King's College; Thomas Claye Shaw, B.A., King's College; George Christopher Tayler, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; John Burges Welch, King's College.

SECOND DIVISION.—Arthur Bayley Adams, London Hospital; John Augustus Ball, Guy's Hospital; Marcus Beck, University College; Charles Berrell, King's College; Other Windsor Berry, Charing-cross Hospital; Francis John Buckell, University College; Henry Clothier, University College; George Eastes, Guy's Hospital; Charles Kelly, King's College; John Lloyd, Queen's College, Birmingham; Charles James Hardy Smith, University College; George Owthwaite Spencer, University College; Arthur Taylor, Guy's Hospital; Thomas Pickard Warren, Guy's Hospital; John Williams, University College.

EXCLUDING PHYSIOLOGY.

FIRST DIVISION.—John Pearson Hughes, University College.

SECOND DIVISION.—Henry Hargreaves Birtwell, St. Thomas's Hospital; Julian Augustus Michael Evans, University College; John Spencer Ferris, King's College; Ralph Gooding, B.A., King's College; John Grimes, King's College; John Wickham Legg, University College; George Hunt Orton, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

PHYSIOLOGY ONLY.

FIRST DIVISION.—Thomas Robinson Glynn, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Henry Charles Hilliard, Guy's Hospital; John Harward Hooper, St. Thomas's Hospital; Arthur George Mickley, Guy's Hospital; Ebenezer Fulham Turner, Guy's Hospital; Thomas James Woodhouse, St. Thomas's Hospital.

SECOND DIVISION.—William Hugh Aldersey, Guy's Hospital; Walter Anstice Harvey, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Arthur Trehern Norton, St. Mary's Hospital; Charles Read, University College.

THE MURDER ON THE NORTH LONDON RAILWAY.

On the evening of the murder Franz Müller, it has been ascertained, went about seven o'clock to the house of Mr. Repsch, Jewry-street, Minories, and was there left in the company of Haffa, Mr. and Mrs. Repsch having to go out. Haffa states that Müller left the house at eight o'clock, and that he (Haffa) did not go out at all. Nothing further is known of Müller until the next morning, when he got up and deported himself in his usual cheerful manner, and after breakfast went out. He did not return home at his usual time, in fact, it is not known when he returned, for all the other occupants of the house had retired to bed. On the Monday following the murder Müller visited Mrs. Repsch, who saw he had got a new hat, which he said he had given 14s. for. Mrs. Repsch also observed the ring obtained from Mr. Death, and took it from Müller's scarf and examined it. On the following Wednesday, after some conversation, Müller and Haffa went to the shop of Mr. Armis, 121, Minories, where the former pawned the gold chain received from Mr. Death for 30s., and on coming out of the shop Haffa gave him 12s. for the ticket, and advanced a further sum of 1*l.* in order that Müller might get his own watch and guard, which had been pawned for 3*l.*, out of pledge. When this was done, the pair went to Princes-street, Leicester-square, where Müller pledged the watch and guard for 4*l.*, and in consideration of a further advance of 5*s.*, Müller gave Haffa the ticket. It has also been ascertained that on the morning of that day Müller had not a fraction of money, consequently when he, in the afternoon, went to the London Docks and paid 4*l.* passage-money, he had only 5*s.* in money in his possession. It may here be remarked that the Victoria was freighted with a cargo of iron, and her sailing qualities are so far below mediocrity that it is not probable she will reach New York before the 20th inst. From the information given by one of the agents of the owners of the vessel, who did not leave the ship until it reached Gravesend, Müller attracted the attention of several of the passengers through his being without a change of clothing and other requisites for so long a journey, and it was also noticed that the wristband of one of the sleeves of his shirt was torn off, and this drew a remark from one of the passengers that Müller had on no shirt at all, to which Müller offered as an explanation that on account of the edge of the wristband being frayed, he had torn it off. On the way down the river the passengers read the newspapers containing the account of the murder, and commented freely upon it, but neither the agent nor the pilot are able to say whether Müller made any remark on the subject. The police are now in possession of facts which place beyond doubt that the hat worn by Müller when he embarked is the same that was worn by Mr. Briggs on the night he was murdered, and of such importance was this considered that, at the request of the commissioners of police, Mr. Briggs, the younger, accompanied Inspector Kerressey, by the second mail-steamer, the more effectually to complete the evidence necessary for the extradition of Müller. The sleeve-lining found in the chimney in Müller's bedroom, and the truncheon found in the neighbourhood, are now in the possession of Dr. Taylor, who has submitted them to an analysis, and found the sleeve-lining deeply saturated with human blood, a portion of which, he thinks, has been wiped from a boot. As regards the truncheon, the doctor has, as yet, expressed no opinion.

The inquest on the body of Mr. Briggs was resumed on Monday. Several witnesses were examined, whose evidence was, for the most part, a repetition of the above facts. The proceedings in this remarkable case were again adjourned.

CLERKENWELL FLOWER SHOW.—The third annual exhibition of plants and flowers grown by the ragged-school children and working classes of the parish of Clerkenwell was opened on Wednesday in the Lamb and Flag Ragged-schools. The schedule of prizes was divided into eight classes. The exhibition was visited during the day by a large number of people, who greatly admired the taste with which it had been got up; and in the evening the prizes were distributed by Mr. W. H. Bodkin, the assistant-judge.

INFANTICIDE.—A Parliamentary return states that during the year 1862, coroners' inquests were held upon the bodies of 2,380 legitimate and 859 illegitimate children, under one year old. Verdicts of wilful murder were returned in 124 of these cases. Inquests were also held in the year upon 2,515 legitimate and 245 illegitimate children, above one year and under seven. In 1863 the number of inquests upon the bodies of legitimate children, under one year old, was 2,679; on the bodies of illegitimate children, 985. Verdicts of wilful murder in 166 of these cases were returned. In 1863, 2,604 inquests were held upon the bodies of legitimate children, above one year and under seven, and upon 248 illegitimate children of the same age.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and members of the Royal family have made frequent water excursions during the week. On Thursday the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Louis of Hesse, and Prince William of Prussia embarked in the Elfin, and were present at the Cowes Regatta. On Friday afternoon the Prince of Wales and the Prince Louis of Hesse landed at Torquay from the Victoria and Albert yacht, and proceeded on a visit to the Grand Duchess Marie of Russia, returning to Osborne next day.

Prince Leopold, who was permitted by her Majesty to lay the foundation-stone of the Royal Albert Infirmary, at Bishops Waltham, on Thursday, during the proceedings stood with Earl Granville on his right and Prince Louis of Hesse on his left. He appeared to be in remarkably good health, but, as was very natural, seeing that this was the first public ceremony in which he took part, a little nervous and excited. At the luncheon which followed his health was drunk, in conjunction with that of Prince Louis of Hesse, to which the latter replied, Prince Leopold standing the while, and bowing his acknowledgments.

The twentieth birthday of Prince Alfred Ernest Albert was celebrated at Windsor on Saturday last with the customary honours paid to the members of the Royal family.

On Sunday morning Divine service was performed at Osborne by the Rev. G. Prothero in the presence of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will arrive at Abergeldie, N.B., on Friday next.

The Earl de Grey, the Secretary for War, has left for Milford Haven on a tour of inspection of the fortifications now in progress on the western coast. The Duke of Somerset, with Lord Clarence Paget, and other members of the Board of Admiralty, left town on Tuesday for Pembroke dockyard and Milford Haven, on their annual tour of inspection. From Milford Haven the Duke and other lords commissioners went to Queenstown, and after their visit to Ireland will call at Holyhead to inspect the harbour works. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has left town for Hawarden Castle. Mr. M. Gibson, M.P., has left town on a yachting excursion. Sir G. Grey, Bart., M.P., left town on Friday for Falloden. Mr. Cardwell, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, will continue in town to act as Secretary of State during the absence of his colleagues.

Dr. Livingstone is at present residing at Hamilton, near Glasgow, with his mother and young family.

The Channel Fleet has arrived off Queenstown.

Lord Brougham is at Brougham Hall, and is in the enjoyment of good health.

Mr. Bright, M.P., who is staying at Tulchan Lodge, on the Spey, with Mr. Bass, M.P., was, on Friday last, at the Strathspey gathering at Castle Grant. The hon. gentleman seemed to be in excellent health.—*Banff Journal.*

It is at length announced that the Postmaster-General has cancelled the contract of the Galway Royal Atlantic Mail Steampacket Company, and that the affairs of the company are now in process of winding up.

The Queen has presented Captain Coles, R.N., with a beautifully executed statuette in bronze of the late Prince Consort, as a souvenir of her visit to the Royal Sovereign.

Prince Jerome Napoleon is cruising in his yacht round the West and North Highlands.

The Lord-Lieutenant will leave Ireland for this country on Wednesday. The rumour that his excellency intends to resign his high office is repeated. One report mentions the Marquis of Lansdowne as his probable successor, and another speaks of the Earl of Bessborough.

Miscellaneous News.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 123 during the week.

Execution at Aylesbury. — William John Stevens, a man twenty-three years of age, who murdered his sweetheart, a girl named Ann Leeson, and afterwards attempted to commit suicide, was executed for the former crime at Aylesbury on Monday. He died very penitent.

The New Act on Weights and Measures.—The act to render "permissive" the use of the metric system of weights and measures has just been printed. Contracts may now be made in terms of the metric system. In a schedule are given the different measures and weights.

The Margate Railway Accident. — The inquest respecting the fatal railway accident at the Margate station of the South-Eastern Railway, concluded on Friday. The verdict is substantially one of manslaughter against the guard of the train, Marshall, and the inspector Derby. The jury also found that the accommodation at the station was insufficient for the traffic.

Flogging Garotters.—The chaplain of the Durham gaol writes to the newspapers characterising the report of the whipping of garotters in that prison as highly exaggerated. He describes the instrument of punishment as being made of whipcord, instead of leather, and instead of the flesh and blood flying about in all directions, as at first described with sickening minuteness, the chaplain states that the criminals returned to their cells "sore, doubtless, but uninjured."

Red Tape.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* relates a very extraordinary case. Some troops just arrived from Madras—a wing of the 74th Highlanders, and detachments of invalids and discharged soldiers—ran short of provisions during the voyage, and were put upon half rations. Though the invalids were destined for Netley Hospital, their ship being chartered for Gravesend, they had to sail from Spithead—almost in sight of the Hospital—up the Thames, and to be sent from Gravesend to Netley by railway.

Deaths from the Heat of the Weather.—On Thursday afternoon Michael Coyle, while haymaking, at Egham, was observed to stagger and fall, and he only survived four hours. About noon of the same day Elizabeth Frampton, a nursery-maid, aged fifteen, on returning home from Kensal-green, whither she had wheeled two children in a perambulator, complained of headache, and died in a few hours, the medical gentleman who attended stating that she had died from sunstroke.

Ships of War Building for the Royal Navy.—There are at the present time 36 vessels under construction at the various royal and private dockyards for the British navy, many of which are in a very forward state for launching. They consist of 4 iron screw ships, 2 iron-cased screw ships, 1 screw iron corvette, 1 double screw iron gunboat, 1 double screw iron and wood gunboat, 6 screw frigates, 3 screw ships, 2 screw corvettes, 4 screw sloops, 1 paddle despatch vessel, 5 screw gun-vessels, and 6 screw gunboats.

Garibaldi's Yacht.—The committee have at length resolved to secure for Garibaldi the yacht belonging to Lord Burghley. Lord Burghley has lately spent about 1,500*l.* upon her. Admiral Mundy says:—"The Osprey will answer the General's purpose. She only draws nine feet of water, and has a good character in every respect, being an excellent sea-boat in bad weather. She is having a thorough refit, and will be ready next week. Two men and a boy, besides the master, will be sufficient to man her. Being what is called "dandy-rigged," she will be very handy, and can proceed immediately to Caprera. — *Liverpool Mercury.*

Lord and Lady Palmerston in Northamptonshire.—On Thursday Lady Palmerston performed the ceremony of cutting the first sod of the East and West Junction Railway, at Towcester. The line will be of an important character as a connecting line, particularly in relation to the discoveries of iron ore. Lady Palmerston has estates in the county, from which immense quantities of ironstone are annually excavated. The line commences at the Blisworth Station. Sir Cusack Roney, the chairman of the company, presided at the luncheon. Lord Palmerston made a speech on the vast advantages which railways have conferred.

Federal Crimps.—A "Lover of Justice" sends to the *Times* a letter which he says was received a few days since by the wife of a man who recently left Liverpool in an American sailing-vessel. The letter sets forth that the writer was nearly starved to death on the voyage out, and that when he landed at New York, a gentleman who had behaved considerately to him on board invited him to his house. He unsuspectingly went, stayed there a few days, was drugged, was pressed into the Federal army, served a few weeks, deserted, was captured again, and is now lying in a military prison. His advice to his friends is not to be enticed to America by any promises whatever, by whomsoever made.

Adding a County to England.—An important meeting of the magistrates of the counties of Norfolk and Lincolnshire has been held at the Globe Hotel, King's Lynn, for the purpose of defining the boundaries of the counties of Norfolk and Lincolnshire in the large tract of land called Wingland. It appeared that the reclaimed land proposed to be divided consisted of about 5,000 acres actually brought under cultivation, and above 1,000 acres as yet only partially reclaimed. This work of reclamation is part of the original scheme of making a new county, which was to be called Victoria county; and the district, which now presents the aspect of highly-cultivated and richly-productive fields, was but a few years ago a dreary waste of alluvial mud, over which each tide passed. But the immediate cause of the reclamation has been the operation of the New Outfall Act. The magistrates, having agreed to the boundary line, which gives nearly an equal amount to either county, gave directions for the line to be marked out. This is to be done by stone posts or landmarks. It should be mentioned that this is but one portion of a very large tract of land that is being, through engineering skill, taken from what has been known as the Wash, but which would seem to have been, ages back, dry land, as the immense submarine forest stretching across the mouth of the Wash off Hunstanton indicates. Many thousands of acres have also been already reclaimed, through the operation of the Norfolk estuary scheme.—*Manchester Examiner.*

Outrages in Railway Carriages.—The excitement caused by the recent outrages in railway carriages had scarcely subsided when it has been again roused by the freaks of a drunken madman. The circumstances are startling enough, but were fortunately attended with no personal injury. Immediately after the Great Northern 9.15 p.m. express had left King's-cross on Thursday, a passenger in one of the Edinburgh carriages, who was dressed as a sailor, complained that he had been robbed. Not being believed, he commenced raving in a wild, maniacal manner, rushed from one end of the carriage to the other, and so conducted himself that it was found absolutely necessary to overcome him by sheer brute force. A most exciting and alarming scene ensued. The fellow plunged and struggled like a madman, his assailants strapped him to the seat, and the passengers made frantic but futile efforts to communicate with the guard. This state of things continued for nearly two hours, until the train arrived at Peterborough, when the man was ejected and given into custody. It is supposed he was labouring under *delirium tremens.* The *Sheffield Independent* reports that on Friday, at Wolverhampton, two men from Liverpool, who said their names were John O'Malley and Richard Hanbury, and were travelling drapers, were each convicted and fined 5*l.* and costs for insulting a respectable married woman and using obscene and blasphemous language in a railway train on that company's line on the previous night.

Under the Garotte.—A person who was garotted at Birmingham early on Tuesday morning sends to the *Birmingham Gazette* the following account of his "sensations":—"Suddenly there was the lightest step imaginable behind me, and before I could turn my head a man's arm was put across my shoulder, and placed over my mouth. In an instant the arm was slid from my mouth under my chin, and was tightened on my throat, and I was lifted from the ground by the arm across my throat. Of course, the impulse to resist was immediate, but it was impossible to obey it, for at the same instant two men rushed forward, and one stationed himself in front of me, towards my left hand, and the other towards my right. Each had grasped one of my arms with one of his hands, and each with a clenched fist began to strike me with all his might on the breast and stomach. One of them kicked furiously at me, but did little execution. I think all three must have worn goloshes. If they did, their being able to come so noiselessly upon me would not be wondered at, and the slight effect taken by the kicks would be accounted for. I received two or three kicks near the cap of the knee, but they did nothing more than take away the skin. While the two men in front were thus kicking and boxing vigorously, the man who held me round the throat called to them 'to give it him well.' All this only lasted a few seconds. As soon as I had found that it was perfectly hopeless to resist, I resigned myself to fate. I was rapidly becoming insensible, and perhaps appeared to be wholly so, for they ceased to strike me, although the man at my throat did not relax his grip. The right-hand man seized an umbrella that I held in my hand, and dragged it from me. The left-hand man dipped his hand hurriedly into one of my trousers pockets, and took the few coppers he found there. The right-hand man made a similar rush at the other trousers pocket, and was more fortunate, for he got about 16s. in silver. He pocketed it quickly, and made an equally hurried seizure on my watch. I have not the faintest recollection of anything that passed afterwards till I revived from the swoon into which I had fallen as the result of their violence. I was at first not a little astonished to find myself sprawling on the pavement. I put up my hand and found my head cut. The garotters, when they had finished their work, must have thrown me down, so that my head was struck by a doorstep. Gradually my recollection cleared, and I remembered what had passed. I looked about me, and found that, besides my watch, my umbrella, and my money, the garotters had made off with my hat."

Strange Scene in a Church—A Marriage Frustrated.—One of the most singular illustrations of the well-known aphorism, "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," occurred, we are informed, in Antrim yesterday. It would appear that at an early hour of the morning a dashing suite of three carriages, with the customary hymeneal embellishments, was furnished by a well-known local posting establishment to convey an apparently happy bride and bridegroom and a joyous wedding party to the historic town of Antrim, where the ceremony was arranged to take place. The party are said to have been in the highest spirits on the way, and, arrived in Antrim, at once proceeded to the sacred edifice in which the twain were to be made one. The officiating clergyman was in readiness, the bride and bridegroom took their places, and the pretty bridesmaids, with a pardonable flutter of expectation, arranged themselves in their allotted positions, and "all went merry as a marriage-bell" until the clergyman, in the course of the service, asked if any present knew of any just cause or impediment why the aspirants for matrimony before him should not be joined in that holy estate. The query was instantly responded to by a young gentleman in the body of the church, who protested that he had just reason to forbid the banns; and, amid excitement which can be better imagined than described, he requested permission to put a question to the bride. This was accorded him, and in a manly voice he asked her if she had not, some two years ago, pledged her troth to him. The fair *fiancée* hung her head and answered "Yes!" and while her intended husband, in concert with the entire assemblage, gazed in utter bewilderment on the scene, the fickle fair one put a climax to the proceedings by adding—"And I will keep my word!" Instantly seizing her former lover by the arm, she swept with him in majesty from the church, and entering one of the carriages which had driven the party to the sacred edifice, drove off at locomotive speed with her recovered swain to the residence of her mother, leaving the poor fellow in the church to ruminate over the inconstancy of fickle women, and doubtless hoping "better luck next time." —*Northern Whig.*

The Arrow won the Royal Yacht Squadron match on Tuesday at Cowes.

Literature.

*MR. DE VERE'S POEMS.**

The title by which Mr. De Vere appears to wish his volume of poems to be known is "The "Infant Bridal." This, however, is a very slight performance, and, in our judgment, greatly inferior to several of the pieces published with it. We have some dim idea that the incident on which it is based is, in the main, historical; but no clue is here given to the persons or places with which it is, or is supposed to be, connected. The story is soon told. Two nations have been at war from time immemorial. At length, when hate seemed to have become hereditary and ineradicable, and when the monarch of either side has fallen, slain by the other's hand—at some tender suggestion of bereaved father or maiden, a league of perpetual forgiveness and amity is inaugurated by the symbolical affiance of the two sweet babes whom the conflict has rendered fatherless. The thought is pretty enough, though somewhat sentimental; but there is nothing in Mr. De Vere's treatment of it to give to his composition permanent value as a work of art.

The greater part of the pieces here collected have been before issued in smaller *fasciculi;* and—which strikes us as rather odd—by different publishers. Their subjects are very various; some, including the one of greatest pretension, the "Search after "Proserpine," are taken from that wondrous field of fertile fancy, the Greek mythology; a few are classed under the head of "May Carols": the greater number can only be grouped as miscellaneous. The whole—even where higher qualities are lacking—are marked by delicate feeling, uniform good taste, and much ease and grace of versification. A few seem to step upwards from the region of elegant allusion and play of fancy, to the higher sphere of true imagination; as, for example, the verses beginning, "Such beauty was not born to die" (p. 274), and the sonnet "To an Infant" (p. 201), and portions of the "Search after Proserpine." Such specimens as these—and we might name more—give a value to this volume above that which belongs to many collections of elegant verse, and, in our opinion, vindicate the author's right to publish. Too many volumes of "poems" are little more than albums, possessing a kind of interest in the circle for which they were originally intended, but having no claim to be more widely known.

The story of Proserpine—with the spilled lapful of flowers, which she, "herself a fairer flower," gathered in the plain of Enna—has been a favourite subject with poets and painters. Ovid liked it so well that he treated it twice; once in the Metamorphoses, and once in the Fasti. Milton couldn't afford to dispense with it, little as it has to do with the loss of Paradise; nor would any ordinarily informed English reader lay aside Mr. De Vere's poem on the ground of its dealing with an obsolete or pedantic subject. But his handling of the ancient myth is his own; and while it does not, we think, clash with the free, nature-loving spirit in which that myth was originally conceived, it blends with its symbolisation of summer and winter, and the pride and decay of vegetation, the suggestion of comfort to the mourner which to us seems so naturally to flow from it—

"And yet lament not; Ceres' self shall learn
Comfort and Divine solace from her child.
What the Gods could not give, her child, though sad,
Yet fraught with sweetness of Elysian wisdom,
Bestows upon the mother. *From this hour*
Let every mortal mother that hath given
A child from her own heart into the shades,
Live and take comfort, they shall meet again.
Let every mourner in the past who buries
An innocent delight, be sure henceforth
That in the treasure-house, a sacred charge,
It shall await him.

The descent of Ceres to Elysium, illumined by radiances suggestive of the hopes that now thrill her bosom—Iris flinging o'er the shadowy path her "many-coloured scarf"—is conceived with genuine poetic truth.

"But lo!
How rich a splendour burns on yonder bank!
The trees grows lustrous as Apollo's locks;
Between the arch of yon suspended bow
And the green hollow, flows a low deep music,
With light songs o'er it playing in wantonness.
Hark, hark, once more.
(The Hours sing.)"

We must find room for another extract or two. The following, which we have above referred to, is from a series entitled "Psyche; or an Old "Poet's Love." There is perceptible in it an echo of another strain,—one which has perhaps awaked more echoes than any other poem ever written;—but it has, nevertheless, an originality of its own:—

"'Such beauty was not born to die!'
That thought above my fancy kept
Hovering like moonbeams tremulously;
And as its lustre waned, I slept.

"Deep Love kept vigil. Where she sate
Methought I saw her. Ah, the change!
Youth freezes at the frown of Fate;
And Time defied will have revenge.

"The summer sunshine of her head
Had changed to moonlight tresses gray:
O'er all her countenance was spread
A twilight as of dying day.

"Dim as a misty tree ere morn,
Sad as a tide-deserted strand,
She sate, with roseless lip forlorn;—
I knelt, and reverent, kissed her hand.

"I loved her. Whom I loved before,
A shape all radiant from the skies,
I loved that hour; and loved far more,
So sweet in this unjust disguise.

"A human tenderness, a love
More deep than that of prosperous years,
Through all my spirit rose and strove,
And, cloudlike, o'er her fell in tears.

Hastily glancing at a few other pieces, we are struck by the exquisitely tender and musical lines—still half-echoing our Laureate—beginning—

"A sigh in the morning gray" (p. 18),

and the sonnet on p. 202, which is another *thema* of the same strain. The "Ascent of the Alps" we do not like. It is noisy and rhapsodical; breathing, no doubt, a sense of keen enjoyment, but lacking that calm, solemn reverence, to which our true poets of mountain scenery—as Coleridge and Wordsworth—have been subdued. We would commend to Mr. De Vere that majestic picture of the former,

". . . . . but thou, most awful Form!
Risest from forth thy silent sea of pines
How silently!"

or that impressive suggestion of the latter,

"Some peak *familiar with forgotten years,*"

as indicating the spirit in which such a subject should be approached. The "Ode to a Daffodil" is better, and in parts exceedingly true and beautiful; in others it strikes us as rather exaggerated. The following lines from the stanzas headed "Coleridge" are pathetic and true:—

"His loftiest thoughts were but like palms uplifted;
Aspiring, yet in supplicating guise—
His sweetest songs were sighs.
Adown Lethean streams his spirit drifted,
Under Elysian shades from poppied bank
With Amaranths massed in dark luxuriance dank."
—P. 93.

Only the word "dank" is out of place, and scarcely rendered welcome to the reader—if it were to the writer—by its rhyming with "bank." We spoke above of the uniform good taste displayed in the volume. Our eye has just fallen on an expression which might tempt us to recall that verdict. "*Unrepented infelicities*" (p. 244) is about the awkwardest description of sins as presenting themselves to an awakened memory and conscience that we ever came across. The sonnet, "On an Infant," shall be our last extract:—

"Familiar Spirit, that so graciously
Dost take whatever fortune may befall,
Trusting thy fragile form to the arms of all,
And never counting it indignity
To be caressed upon the humblest knee;
Thou, having got no words, aloud dost call
Upon our hearts; the fever and the gall
Of our dark bosoms are reproved in thee.
From selfish fears and lawless wishes free,
Thou hast no painful feeling of thy weakness;
From shafts malign and pride's base agony
Protected by the pillows of thy meekness;
Thou hast thy little loves which do not grieve thee,
Unquiet make thee, or unhappy leave thee."

We trust our readers will agree with us that our quotations, as a whole, furnish evidence of something beyond a mere knack of versifying. We may add that the volume is pleasantly free from that pretentious egotism which disfigures so much of the verse written in the present day. If Mr. Aubrey De Vere will only write with concentration,—convincing himself that the proper diction of poetry is not only the most graceful and musical of all language, but also the most condensed and most impatient of superfluities, and that it matters not how little a man writes if that little have but life in it;—he may yet produce something better than anything contained in this volume.

* *The Infant Bridal, and Other Poems.* By AUBREY DE VERE. London: Macmillan and Co.

"CORNELIUS O'DOWD." *

"Cornelius O'Dowd" is the *nom de plume* of a writer who has contributed over thirty papers to *Blackwood's Magazine,* now collected in the volume before us, on a great variety of topics. The motto which the writer puts upon the title-page describes in a somewhat coarse, but on that account perfectly accurate and characteristic, way, many of the peculiarities of these papers. The motto is,—

"I care not a fig
For Tory or Whig,
But sit in a bowl and kick round me."

Exactly so: Cornelius O'Dowd does not care very much for most of the political and social questions which divide men into parties and sections; nor has he a very deep concern, we imagine, for matters of more universal interest. He revolves in a circle, and administers his "kicks" to all who come within reach of his heels. There is undoubtedly a good deal of very smart writing in these papers. "Men and women and other "things in general" are shrewdly criticised and keenly quizzed. But if we were asked to define as nearly as possible in one word what is the aim of the writer, we should decidedly say, Chaff. There is very little seriousness, scarcely any earnestness, in the book. The favourite style of treating difficult practical questions is banter. He cannot apparently keep a steady hold on the serious side of any question, but flies off at a tangent into some grotesque and fantastic conceits, whatever may be the matter under discussion. Thus he raises the question, What are we to do with unemployed women? But his only object in asking the question is that he may draw a fancy picture of ladies employed in the diplomatic service, writing State papers, and busied in political intrigue. The difficult question of competitive examinations is merely a peg on which to hang the suggestion that the Green Park should be laid out as a map of Europe, and candidates for the messenger service of the Foreign Office despatched on fancy journeys, across fictitious barriers, and worried by specimens of the entanglements and inconveniences incident to continental travel. Mr. Home's expulsion from Rome gives a fine opportunity for quizzing the Pope and the conclave of cardinals on their ignoble fears of the Devil and his real or supposed agents. The organ nuisance is to be dealt with by sending a gunboat and a few Armstrong guns to batter down Chiavari, the small Italian town which contributes most of the organ-grinders. It is really a great pity that a clever writer, who has evidently seen and observed much of men and cities, should condescend to wear such motley as this. Surely it is possible to put the gifts that were required to perpetrate all this rubbish to a wiser use. Life is too short for such capering and grimacing.

That "Cornelius O'Dowd" is capable of better things than this, he occasionally shows us. He can tell a story with good effect; he has a sincere, though perhaps not altogether an enlightened love of liberty, and can kindle into eloquence as he contemplates the grandeur and simplicity of Garibaldi's character, and the self-sacrificing heroism of his career. He writes always with ease and abundant graphic power. He is ingenious in tracing the analogies between great and small things, and if this faculty leads him sometimes to treat great things flippantly, it often enables him to illustrate and explain them strikingly and familiarly. He has a genuine love of good society, hates dulness, shuns bores, can hardly appreciate what is solid unless it is also showy, and will most likely overlook the good qualities that are encased in vulgarity, and show marks of ill-breeding.

We are unwilling to part with a very amusing book without giving one short specimen of the author's better manner. In a highly eulogistic notice of Garibaldi, he says:—

"To have achieved his successes, a man must of necessity have rallied around him many besides enthusiasts of the cause; he must have recruited amongst men of broken fortunes,—reckless, lawless fellows, who accepted the buccaneer's life as a means of wiping off old scores with that old world 'that would have none of them.' It was not amidst the orderly, the soberly trained, and well to do, that he could seek for followers. And what praise is too great for him who could so inspire this mass, heaving with passion as it was, with his own noble sentiments, and make them feel the work before them,—a nation's regeneration,—was a task too high and too holy to be accomplished by unclean hands? Can any eulogy exaggerate the services of a man who could so magnetise his fellow-men, as to associate them at once with his nobility of soul, and elevate them to a standard little short of his own. That he did do this we have the proof. Pillage was almost unknown amongst the Garibaldians. These famished, ill-clad, shoeless men marched on from battle to battle with scarcely an instance of crime that called for the interference of military law. Where is the General who could boast of doing as much? Where is the leader who could be bold enough to give such a pledge for his followers? Is there an army in Europe, in the world, for whom as much could be said? All honour therefore to the man, not whose example only, but whose very contact, suggests high intent and noble action. All honour to him who brings to a great cause, not alone the dazzling splendour of heroism, but the more enduring brightness of a pure and unsullied integrity! Such a man may be misled, he can never be corrupted.

* *Cornelius O'Dowd upon Men and Women, and Other Things in General.* London and Edinburgh: Blackwood.

BRIEF NOTICES.

"*Above Rubies*"; *or, Memorials of Christian Gentlewomen.* By Miss Brightwell. (T. Nelson and Sons.) For a series of sketches of eminent women, one might put perfect trust in Miss Brightwell, both for the selection of heroines who should be examples of highest excellence, and for delineation of character marked by sympathy and fine perception. This volume of "memorials" is all that we should have expected from her; and is to be commended as much more fitted than most similar books to give a lively interest in characters distinguished by kindness, truthfulness, purity, and diligence in duty, rather than by remarkable qualities of mind or achievements in life. Some of the women sketched here are indeed amongst the celebrated; but others are comparatively little known to the young. Anne, Countess of Balcarres, and her daughter, Lady Anne Lindsay; Carolina Perthes; Winifred Herbert, Countess of Nithisdale; Lady Fanshawe; Luther's wife; and Mrs. Grant of Laggan—these present a sufficient variety of character to make an interesting book; yet these take us through only about half these pages. We warmly and unreservedly recommend it as a book for girls. The first title, notwithstanding its derivation, strikes us as a blemish.

Pleasant Hours with the Bible; or, Scripture Queries on Various Subjects. (Religious Tract Society.) Reprinted from the *Sunday at Home*, in the pages of which they have perhaps guided Sunday studies in the families of some of our readers. The book is an excellent help for teachers, and to mothers who maintain the good household custom of gathering their children about them for religious culture; and we can testify to the strong interest felt by the young in working out its enigmas and historical characters. A "Key," in a separate volume, accompanies the work. A large knowledge of the Bible may be acquired pleasantly by such mingled study and recreation as it affords.

Window Gardens for the People: and Clean, Tidy Rooms. By Rev. S. H. Parkes, M.A. (S. W. Partridge.) This is an account of "the plan, the rules, and "the result of an effort which has been made in Bloomsbury for improving the home-life of the very poor of "London." There are many valuable practical hints, and many interesting facts, in the little book. It is easy to become a little sentimental on the influence of the cultivation of flowers; and easy to foster home habits that minister nothing to the comfort or real elevation of the inmates, by giving money prizes for cleanliness. The two schemes have their place in any large effort to raise the very poor; but they require cautious application, and may be soon valued at more than their worth. In Mr. Parkes's hands they seem to do real good.

Sabbath Teachings, or the Children's Hour. By Bailey Gower. (Jackson, Walford and Hodder.) The design of this little book is excellent—to provide a course of short Sunday services to be used with young persons, either by parents or teachers. The author has certainly included all subjects necessary to the instruction of children in fundamental religious truth. His work has great merit as to conception and limits:—but more we cannot say in its favour. The whole style and spirit of the teaching is about exactly contrary to what we think the teaching of children should be. The original hymns have not a spark of poetical feeling. The prayers are simple, but sometimes inappropriate. What will children really *feel* or *experience* in saying to their Father in Heaven, "We are not worthy to appear before "Thee, *not only on account of our original sinfulness*," &c., &c.? No theology could be more objectionable than that which teaches relatively to the sin of mankind, that "*in this emergency*, God *devised the plan* of "sending His Son," &c.

THE PERIODICALS.

Blackwood has an admirable paper on Victor Hugo's "William Shakespeare,"—and not confining itself to that "marvellously strange book," the writer makes some very sensible observations on public statues, disputes the rhetorical Frenchman's theory of criticism, and thoughtfully points out, chiefly as to the character of "Hamlet," the influence of the stories adopted by Shakespeare in shaping the characters he delineated—the *conduct* being given, and the *character* having to be accommodated to it. On the question of the influence of statues in cultivating reverence and admiration for the great, the writer "doubts the efficacy of the "means":—

"'A monument,' he proceeds to say, 'is an example. The lofty head of a great man is a light. Crowds, like the waves, require beacons above them. It is good that the passer-by should know there are great men. People may not have time to read; they are forced to see. People pass by that way, and stumble against the pedestal; they are almost obliged to raise the head and glance a little at the inscription. Men escape a book, they cannot escape the statue. One day, on the bridge of Rouen, before the beautiful statue due to David d'Angers, a peasant, mounted on an ass, said to me, "Do you know Pierre Corneille?" "Yes," I replied. "So do I," he rejoined. "And do you know the Cid?" I resumed. "No," said he. To him Corneille was the statue.'

"An amusing anecdote, which does not, however, very happily illustrate the efficacy of teaching by statues. The peasant on his ass looked up at the statue, and made acquaintance with it, and knew Corneille quite satisfactorily. Corneille was to him that bronze or marble."

An able article on "Lewes's Aristotle" does justice to that valuable work; but appropriately dwells on the question, whether Mr. Lewis's definition of Life either is to be accepted as the *last word* of science, or really accords with what Aristotle taught; and, further, examines the theory of the development of science which Mr. Lewes takes up substantially from Auguste Comte. Of "Cornelius O'Dowd" we once more speak elsewhere. The Public Schools Report occasions a second paper, in which "Harrow and Rugby" are compared, and some sound sense spoken on the evidence of Dr. Temple and Mr. Butler, and on the monitorial system and moral discipline generally. The serial tales call for no new remark. The political article is, "The "Vote of Censure": and, of course, *Blackwood* thinks "the leaders of the Conservative party acted most "wisely," that their course "was right alike for the "party and for the interests of the country," and that "the Liberal party has destroyed its reputation," and "is used up"; while Lord Palmerston, "rather than "resign office, has actually accepted an amendment "which is not only condemnatory of the policy of the "Government, but which also gives a notable triumph "to the political sect of whom hitherto he has been the "heartiest hater and the most uncompromising antagonist"—*i.e.*, the Manchester party, with its "dangerous crotchets and ignoble policy."

Fraser opens with "Notes on Diplomacy and Diplomatic History," by Mr. Henry Ottley, which undoubtedly will excite general attention. and will reappear in a collected and permanent form. They display large knowledge, freedom and breadth of thought, and well-exercised judgment. It is laid down at the outset, that "Diplomacy, in its principles and practice, is just now "upon its trial before the whole civilised world, under "circumstances which will test its resources to the very "utmost; and will even suggest for consideration "whether, subject to the conditions under which it has "hitherto been exercised, its continued operation is calculated to conduce to the general welfare and the "honour of society." It is remarked, that although its true province is to deal with the highest offices of natural law in all that concerns the relations of States, "it is in "many respects exceptional to it, being indeed an artificial system of polity, introduced, comparatively "recently, by mutual agreement of States under adventitious circumstances." The subject is discussed from its very root and ground; and, as we cannot follow its progress, we make one extract:—

"It was not till the Congress and treaties of Westphalia that anything in the shape of a combined action between the principal Governments of Europe was introduced. It was after that period that the idea of a European system became established; by which every State began to interfere in the affairs of its neighbours, so that it became hardly possible for the slightest difference to occur between any two without involving all the rest. Then arose those distinct branches of diplomacy—treaties of renunciation and guarantee, arrangements of mediation, arbitration, &c., fruitful sources of intrigue and mischief, examples of which crowd the pages of history, and are now every day coming before us,—and all in the interests of an imaginary theory of the 'balance of power,' in other words, such a due apportionment of the numerical force and territorial extent of different States, as should insure the peace and stability of the community of nations. Alas for the folly of man in his wisest mood! What waste of blood and treasure has there been in Europe since this idea originated! What hecatombs of victims have been sacrificed to this new idol! How often, to avoid distant and uncertain evils, have our princes involved us in present and real calamities, engaging in wars as a precaution against war."

The question which the writer proposes next to discuss, is, "How a generous and honourable people may be "guarded from being involved in wrongful and pre"judicial engagements with foreign powers—how far "their legitimate authority may control such transac"tions?"—this will form the subject of the second article. There is a pleasant paper, having a practical value too, on "Elizabethan Gardening," as "a style "peculiarly domesticated and English," and affording "a smiling welcome all the year round." It is something that an Elizabethan garden, even if confined to the plants known at the period, would present flowers "more numerous than the modern horticulturist can "boast of; for in gardening, as in many other things, "the rage for novelty has superseded numerous valu"able varieties of flowers, which have either wholly dis"appeared or are only occasionally to be met with in "some cottage garden or old-fashioned mansion." But, still more, "the flowers which deck it are familiar to our "literature, are endeared by pleasing associations, and "sanctified by the highest efforts of poetical genius." The article ought to stimulate some of our country friends to the revival of a truly national and most delightful system of gardening, which we ourselves have long deplored to see disappearing. We are not of those gentlemen gardeners who love formal beds, each having a flower of a separate sort and colour, and of too lofty a taste to know the primrose and the daisy. We fully sympathise with this writer in his reprobation of flowers "bedded-out," that may not "wander at their own "sweet will," but "must conform to the requirements "of the pattern elaborately designed on paper"—flowers which have "no pleasing fancies, no poetical "associations, no historical connections." Surely it *is* "safe to deny that a tawdry blaze of scarlets and yellows "is consistent with good taste, or has one tenth the play "of harmonious beauty and richness which a border of "mixed colours possesses." The principles of the old English gardening are laid down in a simple way, and the article closes with some fitting remarks on the management of the Shakespeare gardens at Stratford-on-Avon. "A Day with the Gentle Poets" has some truthful gossippy criticism, full of fine feeling, on Mrs. Browning and Miss Proctor, Christina Rossetti and Jean Ingelow. From "The Transcendentalists of Concord" we could take a score of most interesting anecdotes of Emerson, Hawthorne, Theodore Parker, Agassiz, Alcott, and Margaret Fuller. The writer speaks from personal and intimate knowledge, and is clever and amusing. We cannot forego the following *bits*—

"There is an allegorical story current that once, immediately after Parker had parted from Emerson on the road to Boston, a crazy Millerite encountered Parker, and cried, 'Sir, do you not know that the world is coming to an end?' Upon which Parker replied, 'My good man, that doesn't concern me; I live in Boston.' The same fanatic overtaking Emerson, announced in the same terms the approach of the end of the world; upon which Emerson replied, 'I am glad of it, sir; man will get along much better without it.'"

. . . . . .

"I remember well being present at Emerson's, when Agassiz and Alcott had a most remarkable conversation.

"'I have long desired,' says Alcott, 'to bring my views of creation to the severest scientific test. To me the idea that man is the development from lower orders of beings is a subversion of the truth.'

"'I agree with you entirely,' exclaims Agassiz, with a somewhat pleased glance at the rest of the company, whom he knew to be inclined to the hypothesis of Darwin.

"'Yes, sir,' continues Alcott, 'an exact subversion of the truth. Man, I take it, was the first created being; was he not?'

"Agassiz (in some dismay): 'I don't know that I exactly understand—'

"Alcott: 'Why, it is manifest that God could never have created a miserable, poisonous snake, and filthy vermin, and malignant tigers.'

"Agassiz (embarrassed): 'Well, who could have created them?'

"Alcott (seeing with sorrow that Agassiz is as materialistic as the rest): 'Must we not conclude that these evil beasts which fill the world are the various forms of human sins? That when man was created they did not exist, but were originated by his lusts and animalisms?'

"Agassiz (bewildered): 'But geology shows that these beasts existed many ages before man.'

"Alcott: '*But may man not have created these things before he appeared in his present form?*'

"Here Agassiz gave that signal of distress, which in company is unmistakeable: he looked at his watch. Emerson came to the rescue when the worthy naturalist was on the brink of despair, and suggested that probably the two would comprehend the positions of each other, if Mr. Alcott's theory were given in more scientific rhetoric. 'Doubtless he meant that man was the primal idea and purpose of nature; that these things which swim, fly, creep, are so many *shortcomings* of man—that is, they fall short of being men at this or that degree, and thus represent some as yet uncontrolled animalism of human nature. Thus they may be man flying or creeping; and though as forms they may be anterior, *the type* they are trying to realise (*i.e.*, man) may be anterior to them; in fact, the type must be in some sense their creator.'

"After this Agassiz had the look of a man who has taken to the sea to avoid a fire (for he suspected some Darwinism in every word of Emerson's); and Alcott had the look of having been cheated, for he did not recognise his scientific summer-house in Emerson's fabric; whilst the host, not without some wicked twinklings in his eye, assured the company that faith and science had been reconciled, the conflict of ages ended, and dinner ready."

Mr. Boyd contributes one of his characteristic papers, not now very attractive to us, "Concerning Unpruned "Trees." The remaining contents we cannot report of.

Macmillan is not much in our way this month. "Recruiting for the Army," "Gossip about Lochfyne and "Herrings," "Ensign Short at Wimbledon," "The Distribution and Value of Precious Metals in the 16th "and 19th Centuries," are, as far as we have seen, all of unquestionable merit, but do not happen to engage us. The sketch of "Leonard Horner" is welcome; the article on "Whately, Newman, and *Phenakism*," is of great present interest; and "South Slavonic Churches "—the Serbian," will be the most attractive paper of the whole number to those who are of our own sympathies and tastes. We think (being therein of the opinion we have before expressed) that there are no two better tales "going" in any magazine than Mr. Kingsley's "Burtons and Hillyars," and the "Son of the Soil," in *Macmillan*. Mr. Allingham contributes a graceful poetic version of a Killarney legend.

The *Cornhill* commences "Wives and Daughters," described as "an every-day story," and full of fine promise, but of which we shall speak more fully when a few more chapters are before us. A few words on the character and career of Mr. Nassau, senior, under the heading, "The End of a Long Day's Work," are very truthful and appropriate. There is a capital paper on "The Morality of the Doctrine of Averages," from which we make an extract:—

"Taken altogether, this modern notion of averages introduces a habit of thought and a state of feeling which set off the present age from all that have preceded it, and will not fail ever increasingly to modify human experience in the future. The feeling which it induces may broadly be stated as something *unique* in the history of the world; a fresh sentiment, at present confined to Europe, and not before experienced anywhere. It is at once anti-Christian and opposed to Paganism: the only attempt possible in the way of characterising it, is to say that it is modern as distinguished from ancient, and a secular doctrine as contrasted with

theologic beliefs. The Christian teaching, that events are in a constant flux of modification by prayer and faith, does not appear to contemplate any such fixity of recurrence; for to go a step further back, and strike a supposed average of the yearly acts of faith, or hunt out an imagined mean for the number of annual supplications, would not be tolerated. On the other hand, the modern notion differs from the Pagan or Mahommedan idea of fate, which conveys the sense of a personal destiny. Under that conception, men are, at least, individuals, and the programme is set down for each one separately: according to the modern doctrine, if it were to be taken unqualified, we should seem rather to be human units than men, and in doing or suffering simply constitute the element of an average. We endure or achieve in the degree of a per-centage; fate is not so much a personal ordainment as an allotment made on us in statistical groups—three in the thousand *must* commit burglary this year, but it is so far uncertain that it may be I or you which is included. If a prisoner standing in the dock pleaded in bar of punishment, that the commission of his crime was necessary for the maintenance of the statistics, it would be perfectly logical, we are aware, for the judge to urge that, in the same way, it was requisite for his ten years' penal servitude to be ordered, to prevent an irregularity in the annual tables of sentences. The difficulty is this: that, to believe a dozen decimal fractions in the jury-box are finding another one tenth at the bar guilty of a statistical murder, and that the judge decrees an arithmetical hanging, all simply to keep up proper yearly returns in the universe, brings the human heart to a standstill. Possibly, the objection has no significance, for perhaps we should only feel that agony of revulsion in an average ratio, and even here endure statistically; but we may at least add this, that the sense of such an arrangement would effectually spoil human life and stultify morality. Love will certainly lose its bloom when it is known we can only look for it in a per-centage degree; prayers will most irreligiously be chilled at the thought of their being offered but with the spontaneity of a ratio; and we question if our hearths would be greatly worth sitting by, when it was fully understood that our wives were only statistically kind, and the little children smiled by averages. When the choice lies betwixt supposing this wholesale ruin of the human world, and concluding that some few persons, led away by an enthusiasm for statistics, have applied logic to a matter outside the limits of proof, an appeal lies to common sense; and a protest may safely be entered against this modern superstition of arithmetic, which, if acquiesced in, would seem to threaten mankind with a later and worse blight than any it has yet suffered—that not so much of a fixed destiny, as of a fate expressive in decimal fractions, falling upon us, not personally, but in averages."

We think the whole article important, as taking up intelligently and firmly a subject that has hardly been considered, and that has serious moral bearings. Mr. Matthew Arnold is, perhaps, something fascinated with organisation and central authority as they are to be found across the Channel; and if he does not think that altogether "they manage things better in France," he would yet propose to us to study, not only "a French "Eton," but also "The Literary Influence of Acade-"mies," such as the French Academy, with the hope of finding appreciable advantage. He writes on this subject with such justness and propriety of feeling that, even if largely differing with him, one listens with willingness and respect. "One who has served in the "Ranks" has every claim, for his intelligence as well as his experience, to speak of "The Limited Enlistment "Act," but some of the matters he touches present themselves practically to us from another point of view than his.

The *Eclectic* is this month strong in "reviews proper," and we would especially name that on "Christology," as very well-informed, individually thoughtful, and well written; and that also on "Newman's Apologia," as having much breadth and candour, notwithstanding that we wholly dislike the tone adopted towards Mr. Kingsley—apparently from some prejudice of older date than this controversy—as "the arrogant Cambridge "Professor," "his usual coarseness of feeling and "harshness of expression," "a deplorable figure as a "controversialist," &c., which we think monstrously unjust. There is the peculiar vigour which marks the writer at all times in the racy, interesting paper on the "Church in the clouds."

We regret that we can at present go no further with this month's periodicals.

THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT IN DUBLIN.—DUBLIN, MONDAY EVENING.—The first stone of the intended O'Connell monument was laid to-day by the Lord Mayor, on the site granted by the corporation at the southern extremity of Sackville-street. The demonstration was the greatest that has ever taken place in Dublin, and the conduct of the people was most orderly and quiet. The procession started at twelve o'clock from Stephen's-green, where the several trades of the city had assembled from an early hour, with their bands and the banners of their respective guilds. The persons who took part in the procession wore green sashes, rosettes, and ribbons, and many of the people who thronged the streets were similarly decorated. Amongst those who took part in the procession were the Roman Catholic primate, Dr. Dixon, Archbishop Cullen, Archbishop Leahy, and several other Roman Catholic prelates. Starting from Stephen's-green, the procession passed through the principal streets of Dublin to Sackville-street, where the first stone was laid at about five o'clock, by the Lord Mayor, in the presence of a vast assemblage. The windows along the line of the procession were crowded with spectators, and all the shops were closed. Traffic and business were completely suspended, and the day was kept as a holiday by the artisans and tradesmen. In the evening a banquet took place at the Rotunda. The Lord Mayor presided, and amongst the speakers were Archbishop Leahy, Mr. J. F. Maguire, M.P., Sir Colman O'Loghlen, M.P., and Sir John Gray.

Gleanings.

The late Archbishop Whately, describing commonplace preachers, said, "In their sermons they aim at nothing, and—hit it."

A little girl was killed in Blackburn last week, by drinking a quantity of raw spirits which had been left within her reach.

A drunken man was passing over a railway at Grimsby, a few days ago, by way of a level crossing, when he was knocked down by an express train, and decapitated as cleanly as if he had been guillotined.

Thursday morning was the beginning of the oyster season at Billingsgate. There was in consequence a considerable amount of excitement at that famous market.

The fine old mansion of Colonel M'Murdo, on the banks of the Thames, was on Friday total y destroyed by fire, with all its valuable contents.

By an act just passed, probates and letters of administration are exempted from stamp-duty where the effects do not exceed in value 100*l*.

A boy has been captured in Paris for stealing cats, which his father killed and sold to the cheap eating-house keepers of that city.

There is in America a "Society for the Increase of the Ministry."

All recruits are henceforth to make a declaration of their religious faith on enlisting.

In Vienna *cartes de visite* and other photographic representations of the deceased are inserted in their tombstones, covered with glass.

The Earl of Cavan has been preaching to large numbers of people on the links of Nairn.

According to late returns the population of the kingdom of Italy amounts to 21,777,334.

An American paper says that four little children, while playing in an oak chest in Newbury, were unexpectedly shut in by the closing of the lid and smothered to death.

The *Court Journal* says:—"The harp, one of the most historical of instruments, is about to be introduced, we hear, into Church of England choirs"

THE COMET.—This round luminous haze is now distinctly visible to the naked eye in the immediate neighbourhood, but somewhat below and to the left, of Pleiades. It is best viewed through an ordinary opera-glass, and can be seen almost as long as starlight lasts.

SOURCES OF CRIME.—The Report on Convict Prisons just issued contains the curious statement that "experience goes far to show that it is female influence, exerted in some way or other, and not, as is often supposed, intoxication, which is the source of so much crime."

Wonderful are the developments of trade and commerce. The latest new Limited Liability Company is an association for lending sacks—coal-sacks, corn-sacks, potato-sacks, all kinds of sacks—at the rate of a penny a-week.

THE FRENCH COURT.—Dress has never before attained such costly proportions, so to speak, as during the present season at many of the fashionable watering-places. At Vichy, where the Emperor is at present staying, the toilettes display an almost unheard-of magnificence. Many ladies of rank have been debarred from going there because they cannot keep pace with so much extravagance.

A VERY NARROW ESCAPE.—As the Fentonville train, on the Michigan Central Railway, was on its way to Detroit, and within about a mile of Birmingham, the engineer noticed a child about two years of age sitting across the rail apparently delighted with her position, laughing and clapping her hands in great glee at the approaching train. The breaks were immediately whistled down and the engine reversed, but it was soon discovered that the train could not be stopped in time to prevent the child being run over. Seeing this, John Adams, baggageman, got out on front of the engine, and knowing that he could not grasp the child in time to lift her from the rail before the engine would be upon her, he leant over, and with great presence of mind and steadiness of nerve pushed her out of harm's way on one side of the track. The train was stopped, and the child taken up unhurt and delivered over to her mother.—*Detroit Free Press.*

CARDINAL WISEMAN ON THE CURE OF DIABETES.—A paragraph has gone the round of the papers to the effect that Cardinal Wiseman had been cured of diabetes by a prescription sent to him by a Unitarian minister. This, it appears, is incorrect; but the Cardinal, in a letter giving a general reply to inquiries, states:—"To Divine Providence, he, of course, attributes in the first place the great change which he has felt in his health. Next the waters of Vichy, and the course there followed, strictly observed once on the spot, and since repeated, both as to baths and draughts, with observance of the diet prescribed there, several times at home, seem to have been the safest and surest curative system in his case. Add to this the use for a time of gluten bread and meal (then only procurable in Paris, now sold in London), and little else seems to require notice as distinct from professional directions."

PARLIAMENTARY TOMFOOLERIES.—If a Chinese mandarin could be brought over to witness a prorogation of Parliament, he would esteem us the politest and most polished people on the face of the earth. The obeisances that began the interview are continued and kept up to the end. If I attempt to enumerate them it will read like a contribution to the Stati-tical Society. Three times, as I have said, do the Lords Commissioners and Mr. Speaker exchange bows before they can bring themselves to proceed to business. The Clerk bows before the Commission, and then makes five salaams, duly returned, as he names their lordships. But these inclinations of head and body are as nothing compared with the obeisances that go on for the space of five-and-thirty minutes, while the bills are receiving the Royal assent. First the Clerk of the Crown bows to the Lords Commissioners, then he reads out the title of the bill, and then he bows again. Then the Clerk of the Parliaments, on the other side of the table, bows to the Lords Commissioners, and declares the Royal assent in the old Norman French, and then he bows again. Then the Clerk of the Crown executes a *da capo* movement, and so on until every bill is gone through, to the number of 99. Multiply 99 by 4, and you have 396 bows faithfully and reverently performed, and not "scamped" or semi-indicated. Add 36 on the arrival and departure of the Commons, and 10 on the mention of the Lords Commissioners' names, and you have a grand total of *four hundred and forty two* obeisances performed in about forty minutes, being at the rate of eleven per minute. No wonder that the strangers begin to be a little weary of the spectacle before the ninety-ninth bill is reached, and that the Premier is engaged in conversation with his Black Rod. A lady near me asked what the consequence would be if the Clerk of the Parliaments made a mistake and used the wrong formula—*La Reyne le veult*, for an Estate Bill, or *Soit fait comme il est desiré* for a Public Bill. She took it for granted that the act could not have the force of law. Her veneration for the Norman French sustained a sensible shock when she was assured that it would not make the least difference. If the Clerk, she was told, after bowing to the Lords Commissioners, should, instead of *La Reyne le veult*, mutter to himself, "What dreadful old guys you look!" the public service would not sustain the least detriment. All that is necessary for the validity of an act of Parliament is to prove that it is printed by the Queen's printers, and the judges of the land would not listen to anything alleged to be said, or unsaid, by the Clerk of the Parliaments.—*London Correspondent of Scotsman.*

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Funds have been depressed throughout the week. Consols for delivery have been quoted as low as 88¾, and the closing prices yesterday were 88¾ 89 for money, and 89 nine-sixteenths to 89 eleven-sixteenths for the 8th September.

On Thursday last the Bank of England raised its rate of discount from 7 to 8 per cent., a measure which, though at the time unexplained and somewhat unexpected, was sufficiently accounted for by the appearance of the Bank returns on the following day, by which it was shown that the reserve of notes was lower than it has been at any time since the panic of 1857. A further rise was expected, as commercial requirements were likely to be large, but no further advance has been made.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Insurance Company, the report for 1863 stated the fire premiums for the year to have amounted to 341,668*l*., being an increase of 40 977*l*. on those of the preceding year. The profits realised amounted to 83,545*l*., of which 34,100*l*. was appropriated to the dividend and bonus, and the balance, 49,444*l*, was added to the reserve fund. The new life premiums received in the year amounted to 24,069*l*., assuring 752,546*l*.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, August 3.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£26,821,725	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,634,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	12,171,725
	£26,821,725		£26,821,725

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£11,047,095
Rest	3,622,186	Other Securities ..	20,765,698
Public Deposits	5,155,704	Notes	4,892,785
Other Deposits	13,519,626	Gold & Silver Coin	705,708
Seven Day and other Bills	560,770		
	£37,411,286		£37,411,286

August 4, 1864. W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BUDD.—July 29, the wife of Mr. Joseph Budd, jun., of Marquess-road, Canonbury, of a daughter.

HERIOT.—Aug. 5, at 2, Manor Villas, Upper Holloway, the wife of Robert Heriot, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DUNCOMBE—WYATT.—July 16, at St. James's Church, Paddington, Thomas H., only son of the late Thomas Slingsby Duncombe, Esq., M.P. for Finsbury, to Mary, only daughter of Sir Matthew Wyatt.

HODGES—JACOB.—July 23, at the Baptist Chapel, Thames-street, Wallingford, by the Rev. Thomas Brooks, Mr. George Hodges, of Hungerford, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr. James Jacob, of Ewelme, Oxfordshire.

BYGOTT — NETTLETON.—July 27, at the Independent Chapel, Greenhammerton, by the Rev. W. Lord, Mr. W. T. Bygott, Huddersfield, to Maria, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Nettleton, of Sherburn.

HOGG-COCKBURN.—July 27, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. Wm Roaf, Mr. James Hogg, to Miss Elizabeth Cockburn, both of that town.

COLEMAN-FARMER.—July 28, at the Independent Chapel, Wigston, Alfred, eldest son of the late Mr. Wm Coleman, to Annie, fifth daughter of Mr. Wm. Farmer, all of the former place.

HORSFALL — CROWTHER.—July 28, at South-parade Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Roberts, Mr. Ibbotson Horsfall, Warley, to Miss Sarah Crowther, of Midgley.

SPENCER—CLAY.—July 28, at the New Church, Square-road, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Roberts, Mr. Henry Spencer, of Midhurst, to Miss Ann Clay, of Halifax.

TAYLOR — GILES.—July 30, at Saltaire Congregational Church, by the Rev. H. M. Stallybrass, Mr. James Taylor, to Sarah Ann Giles, both of Saltaire.

POOLE—BERRY.—July 30, at St. Mary's, Islington, Thomas Henry Poole, Esq, of Pierce Williams, Hatfield Broad Oak, to Cecilia, youngest daughter of the Rev. C. Berry, late of Hatfield-heath, Essex. No cards.

TEMPLE—BELL —July 31, at the Congregational Church, Darlington, Mr. Peter Temple, to Miss Cecilia Bell, both of Darlington.

PEARMAIN — ALLSOP.—Aug. 1, at the Congregational Chapel, Stourbridge, by the Rev. J. Richards, Mr. Joshua Pearmain, to Sarah, second daughter of Mr. Allsop, all of Stourbridge.

BURGESS—MILES.—Aug 2, at Princes-street Chapel, Norwich, William Burgess, of St. Catherine's-plain, to Frances A. Miles, of Magdalen-street, Norwich.

HILL—SCOVELL.—Aug. 2, at Argyle Chapel, Bath, by the Rev Spencer Edwards, Mr. William Hill, of Exeter, to Anne, stepdaughter of Mr. John Scovell, of Bath.

WHITE—BULL —Aug. 2, at Palace-gardens Chapel, Bayswater, by the Rev. John Offord, the Rev. Frank H. White, of Chelsea, to Emily, third daughter of Mr. Bull, of New Bond-street No cards.

SWANN—BOOCOCK.—Aug. 2, at Albion Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. Richard Storey, of Heywood, Lancashire, Mr. Wm. B. Swann, M.R.C.S.L., to Mary Jane, only daughter of Mr. John Boocock, of Leeds.

GUTTERIDGE—WILLIAMS.—Aug 3, at Abingdon, by the Rev. S. G. Green, B.A., President of Rawdon College, Matthew Gutteridge, Esq., B.A., head master of Gravesend Proprietary School, to Mary Jane, daughter of the late Theophilus Williams, Esq., of Reading.

SUTHERS—STONE —Aug. 3, at Cavendish-street Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. R. M. Davies, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, Spencer Seville Suthers, Esq., Oldham, to Eliza Ann, daughter of Joseph Stone, Esq, M.D., Manchester.

BRANSBY—JACKSON.—Aug. 3, at the Friends' Meeting-house, York, John Ransome Bransby, to Mary Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles Jackson, of York.

TOTTY—BENNETT —Aug. 3, at the Independent Chapel, Elsecar, Mr. Joseph Woodcock Totty, of The Haugh, near Rotherham, to Ann, elder daughter of Mr. Joseph Bennett, of Elsecar

WADDINGTON — LEA.—Aug 4, at Hope-street Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. W. L. Preston, William Waddington, Esq., Wigan, to Ellen, daughter of John Lea, Esq., Wigan. No cards

PYWELL—PYWELL.—Aug. 4, at Union Chapel, Parish-street, Horsleydown, by the Rev. J. Pywell, of Stockport, Mr. Alfred Pywell, of Melton Mowbray, to Mary Maria, eldest daughter of Mr. William Pywell, of East-street, Old Kent-road. No cards.

HAYMAN — TUCKER.—Aug. 4, at the Ashburton-road Chapel, Totnes, by the Rev. Francis Tucker, B.A. (of Camden-road Chapel, London), uncle of the bride, Mr. B. W. Hayman, draper, Barnstaple, to Ellen, second daughter of Mr. William Tucker, grocer, Totnes.

SARGEANT—HELLIER.—Aug. 4, at Jamaica-row Chapel, Bermondsey, by the Rev. J. W. Todd, of Sydenham, Joseph Frank Sargeant, of 3, Victoria-terrace, Hornsey rise, N., to Sarah Ann, daughter of the late John Hellier, Esq., of Notting-hill. No cards.

SYKES—BILBROUGH.—Aug. 8, at Rehoboth Chapel, Morley, by the Rev J. Haslam, of Gildersome, Mr Edwin Sykes, of Huddersfield, to Mary, second surviving daughter of Mr. Edward Bilbrough, of Bruntcliffe, near Leeds.

DEATHS.

JEFFREYS.—April 27, at Port Louis, Mauritius, after a lingering illness, the effect of cholera, aged forty, John William Jeffreys, for some years connected with the newspaper press in that island, and second son of the Rev. John Jeffreys, formerly missionary in Madagascar.

GERVIS—July 19, Ambrose, youngest son of Frederick Shorland Gervis, Esq., of Tiverton, Devon, aged eighteen years.

CRAVEN.—Aug. 2, at Summerlease, near Rochdale, Sarah Taylor, the wife of Mr. Geo. Craven, corn-merchant.

ETHERIDGE.—Aug. 3, at The Lawn, Ramsgate, William Stewart, infant son of the Rev. B. C. Etheridge, aged eight weeks

ERLEBACH.—Aug. 4, at West Lulworth, Dorset, in his eighty-fourth year, the Rev. Adolphus Erlebach, thus closing a lengthened career of laborious service for Christ.

OFFOR.—Aug. 4, at Grove House, South Hackney, G. Offor, Esq., J.P., aged seventy-seven.

VARTY.—Aug 5, at Sussex-road, Seven Sisters'-road, Harriett, widow of Mr. T. Varty, aged fifty-nine.

SINCLAIR.—Aug. 6, at the Vicarage, Kensington, Miss Catherine Sinclair, daughter of the late Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart, and author of "Modern Accomplishments," "Modern Society," and other works

BROWNE.—August 8, at South Shore, Blackpool, Anne, the wife of Henry Browne, Esq. M.D., Clairville, Manchester, and daughter of George Hadfield, Esq., M.P., Manchester.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—REMARKABLE RECOVERY.—Mr. Gamis, chemist, Yeovil, writes that a lady residing in that town had for many years been severely suffering from indigestion and liver complaint, for the relief of which her medical man told her he could do nothing further. Unnerved by this announcement, she sought sympathy from friends, one of whom recommended Holloway's Pills, which were at once procured. The invalid, carefully attending to the accompanying directions, took the Pills, and soon perceived a change which equally astonished and delighted her. She gradually got quite well Pains in the side, heaviness in the head, confusion of thought, giddiness, low spirits, and many other sufferings indicative of disordered liver, can be dispelled with ease and certainty by this medicine.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, August 8.

There was not much English wheat fresh up this morning, but a good many samples were left over from last week Several parcels of new were offered to-day, but they represented only a small quantity; the prices realised varied from 44s. to 50s. The trade ruled dull throughout the day, and prices were fully 1s. per qr. in favour of the buyer. For foreign the enquiry was very limited, and pressing sellers were obliged to accept rather lower prices to induce business. Barley rather cheaper for all sorts Beans 1s. per qr. dearer. Peas without alteration Notwithstanding we have had liberal arrivals of oats, with dry and parching weather, the trade for this article has been very firm during the week. Factors generally demanded higher prices this morning, and a fair sale was experienced at the extreme rates of this day week.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT. Islington, Monday, August 8.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 14,629 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 15,775; in 1862, 10,802; in 1861, 9,697; in 1860, 15,057; 1859, 10,662; 1858, 9,518; and in 1857, 8,922 head. There was a full average supply of foreign stock on offer in to day's market, in but middling condition. The bulk of the foreign beasts were stores. Sales generally progressed slowly at drooping prices. From our own grazing districts the arrivals of beasts fresh up were large, and of prime quality. From Ireland and Scotland the supplies were small. Good and prime beasts sold somewhat steadily, but at a slight reduction in value. Inferior breeds were very dull, and 2d. per 8lbs. lower. The general top figure for beef was 4s. 10d., but a few very superior Scots found buyers at 5s. per 8lbs. The receipts from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire comprised 2,600 shorthorns and crosses; from other parts of England, 700 of various breeds; from Scotland, 49 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 30 oxen and heifers. As to number, the show of sheep was seasonably good, but most breeds came to hand in moderate condition. Downs, half-breds, &c., sold steadily at full prices; otherwise the mutton trade was in a sluggish state at 2d. per 8lbs. less money. The best old Downs realised 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. With lambs we were fairly supplied, and the inquiry for them was inactive, on lower terms. The current rates were 5s. 8d. to 6s. 8d. per 8lbs. We have to report a dull sale for calves at Thursday's currency, from 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lbs. The pig trade was heavy at last week's quotations.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts.	3 4	to 3 8	Prime Southdown	5 2	to 5 4
Second quality	3 8	4 0	Lambs	5 8	6 8
Prime large oxen.	4 2	4 6	Lge. coarse calves	3 10	4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8	4 10	Prime small	4 8	4 10
Coarse inf. sheep.	3 6	3 10	Large hogs	3 6	4 0
Second quality	4 0	4 6	Neat sm. porkers.	4 2	4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	4 8	5 0			

Suckling calves, 16s to 22s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, August 8.

These markets are moderately supplied with meat for the time of year. The trade, generally speaking, is steady at our quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	3 0	to 3 4	Small pork	4 2	to 4 6
Middling ditto	3 6	3 10	Inf. mutton	3 10	4 4
Prime large do.	4 0	4 2	Middling ditto	4 6	4 8
Do. small do..	4 2	4 4	Prime ditto	4 10	5 0
Large pork.	3 4	4 0	Veal	3 8	4 4

Lamb, 5s 0d to 6s 0d.

PRODUCE MARKET, Tuesday, August 9.

TEA—Business has been rather inactive, and the few dealings entered into have been of about previous rates. A small quantity is announced for public sale this day.

SUGAR—The market has remained dull, the rise in the value of money having checked speculative operations. In the refined market there is little change of importance to report.

COFFEE—There has been a moderate inquiry for colonial descriptions at about previous quotations.

RICE—A fair amount of business has been done in inferior qualities of East Indian, without, however, any material change to report in prices.

PROVISIONS, Monday, August 8.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 4,014 firkins butter, and 2,386 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 16,167 casks of butter, and 1,909 bales of bacon. We have to notice a decided improvement in the Irish butter market, sales freely effected at advancing prices, and our quotations are fully 2s. higher than this day se'nnight. Foreign advanced 4s. to 8s. per cwt. The bacon market keeps very firm at full prices.

POTATOES.—Borough and Spitalfields, Monday, Aug. 8.—Moderate supplies of home-grown potatoes are on sale at these markets, but the receipts of foreign produce continue very small. On the whole, the trade is steady, and prices rule firm.

SEEDS, Monday, August 8.—The inquiry for seeds continues firm for all varieties. With some continental inquiry, red cloverseed is held firmly; white is fully as dear for all fine qualities. Trefoil maintains its value; the samples of New English come of fine quality. New Trifolium, with more demand, was 1s. dearer this morning.

WOOL, Monday, August 8.—Since our last report the transactions in all kinds of home-grown wool have been very moderate, and the late advance in the quotations have been with difficulty supported. The quantity of wool on offer is rather limited, but there is scarcely any inquiry either for France or Belgium.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, August 6.—The market for flax is steady, at late rates. Hemp is dull, and prices have given way, clean Russian being now quoted at £33 to £35 per ton, on the spot. Jute is a dull inquiry, on former terms. Coir goods are steady in price.

COALS, Monday, August 8.—Market firm, at the prices of last day. Haswell, 19s.; Hetton's, 19s.; East Hartlepool, 18s. 9d.; Hartlepool, 18s. 9d.; Kelloe, 17s. 6d.; Eden Main, 17s. 6d.; Holywell, 14s. 6d.; Hugh Hall, 17s. 6d.; Tanfield, 13s.; Harton, 16s. 9d.; Hetton Lyons, 16s. 9d. Fresh arrivals, 57; left from last day, 8.—Total, 56. 70 ships at sea.

TALLOW, Monday, August 8.—The tallow trade is steady to-day, at full prices. P.Y.C. is quoted 41s. 9d. per cwt., on the spot, and 43s. 8d. for October to December delivery. Rough fat 2s. 1d. per 8lbs.

OIL, Monday, August 8.—Linseed oil is dull, at 37s. to 37s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot. In cocoanut oil there has been considerable speculation, and for palm there is a steady demand at full prices. For other oils, however, the trade is quiet. French spirits of turpentine are selling at 70s. per cwt. Refined petroleum 2s. 2d. per gallon.

Advertisements.

OSTEO-EIDON.

MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;

34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmith), LONDON

134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and

65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

GABRIEL'S WHITE GUTTA-PERCHA ENAMEL, chemically prepared for personal use, prevents Toothache, and arrests decay,—supersedes all metallic stoppings. Prepared only by Messrs Gabriel, and sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 6d. per box, with directions for use, or post free Twenty Stamps.

REMOVAL.—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their practice to 53, BROOK-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, in consequence of their premises, 31, New Bridge-street, being required by the London, Chatham and Dover Railway.

TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 448, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

TEETH supplied by Messrs. GODFREY received the Prize Medal awarded at the International Exhibition of 1862. One visit only required for their adjustment. They will last a life, and again restore the sunken face to its original beauty. A set from 2l. 10s. to Thirty Guineas. Stumps extracted painlessly. Teeth filled with gold—guaranteed for twenty years.

17, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

PEACHEY'S
PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,

AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

73 BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C.

Opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

***New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1862, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report. Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianos are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled. Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianos at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE
(PATENT)
MIXTURE OF TEAS,

6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed.

FRANKS, SON, and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA It is CHOICE and STRONG, because it consists of *most valuable growths* that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, because it is supplied *direct from the importers* to the consumers by *Agents*.

It is WHOLESOME to use, because the leaf is not *faced* with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These combined ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in *sealed packets*, with the price *printed on each*, and signed—

Horniman & C°.

TAYLOR BROTHERS'
GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. Hassall, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz.:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Prize Ox," and Dr. Hassall's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS'
WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

Is prepared solely by Lea and Perrins.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that Lea and Perrins' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

*** Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. Crosse and Blackwell; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

PURE PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c.

And Table Delicacies of the highest quality, pure and wholesome. See "Lancet" and Dr. Hassall's Report.

CROSSE AND BLACKWELL,

Purveyors to the Queen,

SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

May be obtained from all Grocers and Oilmen.

OF ALL THE ILLS THAT FLESH IS HEIR TO,

What is worse than rheumatism? Let its victims use Dr. Lang's Essential Spirit of Melissus. To be had of Wholesale Medicine Vendors and respectable Chemists, &c., throughout the country; in bottles, at 2s. 9d. each Full Directions for use on wrappers enclosing the Bottles.

FURNITURE CATALOGUE.

SEE THE "COURT CIRCULAR" FOR JAN. 16.

EXTRACT:

"Among the latest productions of what may be denominated 'trade literature,' we have just been favoured with a copy of the new Illustrated Catalogue of 'The General Furnishing and Upholstery Company.' It is a most carefully-compiled and artistically-executed work; and not the least important feature of it is the perfect truthfulness with which every object is represented. The attainment of excellence has evidently been the aim in the production of this guide; and, if the general business of the company is conducted on the same principles, and with equal liberality, the spirited proprietors certainly deserve all the encouragement which such a policy is calculated to secure."

THE GENERAL FURNISHING AND UPHOLSTERY COMPANY
(Limited),
24 AND 25, BAKER-STREET, W.
CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

W. F. THOMAS AND CO.'S
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